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KENT ON SUNDAY

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ELECTION 2010

- Round-up and analysis of how the county voted
- Interviews with your incoming and outgoing MPs
- The changing face of Kent's political landscape

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BROWN'S FUTURE DIVIDES PARTIES

Tories and Lib Dems say PM must go, but Labour candidates back coalition

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

PRIME Minister Gordon Brown should throw in the towel and leave Downing Street immediately, according to several of the county's most senior politicians.

Former Conservative leader Michael Howard led calls for Mr Brown to resign following Thursday's General Election, which saw Labour remain in at least temporary charge of the country despite the Conservatives winning the most seats.

The resulting hung Parliament means Labour could now form a coalition government with the Liberal Democrats and leave the Tories out in the cold, which Mr Howard said would be a "stitch-up of the losers".

He added: "I think it would be dreadful. We need to restore trust in politics and I can't think of anything that would do more damage to that than to have him [Brown] desperately trying to cling to power, and for him to be dragged kicking and screaming out of Parliament."

Despite the Conservatives wiping Labour off the political map in Kent, they were unable to win enough seats nationally to secure the absolute majority required for David Cameron to become Prime Minister.

However, his party is claiming a moral right to Downing Street after securing the highest number of seats and largest popular vote.

The final count saw the Tories win 306 seats, Labour 258 and the Liberal Democrats 57 – with none securing the overall majority of 326.

Shadow immigration minister Damian

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

WHO WILL CLEGG BACK?: David Cameron and Gordon Brown are both looking to Nick Clegg for support in the battle for Number 10

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Brown the sticking point

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Green – the MP for Ashford – said the Tories were now the only party with the mandate to run the country.

He added: "Gordon Brown has clearly been told by the British people they don't want him any more. He should accept that verdict, step down and let somebody else take over.

"That's what I think he should do, but what he ends up doing is for him and his conscience.

"In a few days' time, if people are waking up with him still as Prime Minister, then they will wonder what the point of voting was."

Mr Green's views were shared by Tory stalwart Ann Widdecombe, who retired from politics last month after 23 years as MP for Maidstone and Weald. She said that while it was acceptable for Mr Brown to remain in charge on a temporary basis, he should not be allowed to do so long-term.

She added: "Undoubtedly the Conservatives have the moral mandate and Britain clearly wants a Conservative government.

"There's nothing wrong with Gordon Brown staying on until a new government is formed, but if the Lib Dems decide to prop him up then I think people will be very, very angry."

Just hours after the nation learned the election had resulted in a hung parliament, Lib Dem leader Nick Clegg said the Tories should be given the opportunity to see if they could govern. On Friday afternoon, both Mr Cameron and Mr Brown said they were keen to work with the Lib Dems, and it seemed a weekend of political horse-trading was on the cards.

Mr Brown is keen to offer electoral reform to tempt the Lib Dems to keep him in Number 10, while Mr Cameron stressed the number of policies his party and Mr Clegg could agree on.

Prominent Lib Dem candidate Peter Carroll – founder of the successful Gurkha Justice Campaign – said he hoped his party would not allow Mr Brown to remain in office.

Mr Carroll, who came second to Conservative Helen Grant in Maidstone and Weald, said: "I would really struggle with that. I saw Harriet Harman talking about how he had a natural right to remain Prime Minister, but that's nonsense. There's something not right about that. It would reduce him to a laughing stock if he was allowed to stay in power."

However, Labour's former transport minister Dr Stephen Ladyman, who was defeated in South Thanet by Tory Laura Sandys, said he would always support his party's leader.

He said: "Gordon Brown staying on as Prime Minister depends on what coalition is agreed. If the coalition has the most seats, then why not?

To view search 'election' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Kent voters give their reaction after the General Election resulted in a hung parliament

"Mr Brown was an issue in the elections and this affected the result. A lot of people dislike him, and a lot of people respect him.

"People focused on his character flaws, but if you looked at how many people respected him, you can see a good balance. I will always support the Labour leader. A new leader is a decision for the party once all this has settled down."

Immigration didn't cost us say Labour candidates

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE ousted Labour MP for Dover and Deal says he doesn't believe worries over immigration cost him his seat, but admits it was among the biggest concerns locally.

Gwyn Prosser said even Gordon Brown's 'bigot' comment didn't damage his chances of keeping Dover voters on his side.

But he admitted worries over illegal immigrants arriving through the port came at number three in the list of doorstep moans.

He told KOS Media: "If worries over immigration were going to play a part in any seat, it would be here in Dover.

"I make no bones about it, the concerns are definitely there. The common response I was getting in my mailbag and on the doorstep was that people were worried about their jobs and they would link that with immigration.

"Many would confuse planned, managed, limited immigration with asylum and illegal immigration. They were concerned about those coming from eastern Europe and Poland and taking people's jobs and driving down salary settlements by accepting low pay."

He also played down the moment when Mr Brown was caught calling a woman "bigoted" when she complained about immigrants.

Mr Prosser said: "People told me what he [Mr Brown] said was wrong, but then they were moving on, so I don't think many changed their vote just because of that."

Tory Charlie Elphicke, who won Dover and Deal, said immigration was fourth on people's list of concerns, behind the port sell-off, health and jobs. He said: "People were concerned about Gordon Brown's plan to sack frontline immigration officials. People thought that was wrong and believe our country should be protected. There was a lot of passion about that on the doorstep."

Helen Grant, who took Ann Widdecombe's Maidstone and Weald seat to become the first black female Tory MP, said: "The control of legal and illegal migration was one of a number of big issues that had an effect.

"Mending our broken economy, redressing the effects of Brussels on our sovereignty, quality of public services, government waste and restoring of public trust were also factors."

Conservative Damian Collins, who took over from Michael Howard in Folkestone and Hythe, said: "Immigration was definitely a doorstep issue. National opinion polls showed that too. People felt it was important."

The BNP and National Front between them stood in 18 constituencies, but failed to make a significant impact at the polls.

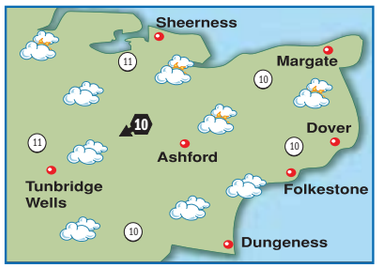
Picture: JENNY ARMSTRONG

STACKING UP: Thursday's election count under way at the Westgate Hall, Canterbury

ELECTION 2010

• For more news, reaction, photos and opinion – plus full county results from Thursday's General Election – see pages 19-25

Kent today



TODAY: Mainly dry with a fair amount of cloud around during the day and just a small chance of the odd spot of drizzle. Gentle north-easterly winds. Chilly. Max temp 10-13C (50-55F). **TONIGHT:** Dry with clear spells and variable cloud. Chilly for May with gentle winds. Min temp 3-6C (37-43F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	cloudy	10	50	London	cloudy	13	55
Belfast	fair	12	54	Liverpool	fair	12	54
Birmingham	fair	12	54	Manchester	fair	12	54
B'mouth	cloudy	13	55	Newcastle	fair	9	48
Bristol	cloudy	11	52	Norwich	cloudy	11	52
Cardiff	fair	13	55	Oxford	cloudy	12	54
Cork	cloudy	12	54	Southsea	cloudy	14	57
Edinburgh	fair	12	54	S'hampton	cloudy	12	54
Glasgow	fair	12	54	Southport	sun	12	54
Isle of Man	sun	11	52	Swansea	fair	12	54
Leeds	fair	9	48	Torquay	cloudy	12	54

Sun & moon

Sunrise	5.12am	Sunset	8.32pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	3.02am	Moonset	3.40pm	8.32pm to 5.11am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)
Dover	08.51	5.3	21.04	5.6	09.37	5.6	21.48	5.8
Margate	09.41	3.9	21.59	4.0	10.33	4.1	22.48	4.2
St Mary's	02.05	4.5	14.38	4.4	02.56	4.7	15.22	4.7

Week ahead

monday Mainly fine. max 13C min3C

tuesday Rather cloudy. max 12C min 3C

wednesday Cloudy at times. max 14C min 4C

thursday Largely dry. max 14C min 6C

friday Showery rain. max 16C min 6C

saturday Showers. max 15C min 7C

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Young aspiring to be like cheating sporting heroes

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
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DIVERS, shirt-pullers and eye-gougers could be breeding a new generation of sport cheats, according to a recent poll.

The research, commissioned by the Cricket Foundation, found that more than half of schoolchildren would be willing to break the rules to achieve victory in team games.

Examples of bad sportsmanship cited in the survey of 1,015 eight to 16-year-olds included youngsters feigning injury, punching, kicking and swearing.

Ashford Town manager Steve Lovell – formerly Gillingham's football in the community officer – blamed the rise in cheating on the big wages and rewards tied up in sport.

He said: "Football has grown as a business rather than a sport and those involved in the game are perhaps more desperate to win because of the finances involved.

"It's very difficult to find a happy medium between winning and playing fairly.

"If anything is to be done then it needs to be done at a high level. The kids aspire to play in the Premiership and if they see players diving and cheating on the telly then they will think it's okay for them to do the same. We need more positive role models in the game.

"I would like to think I was an honest player back in the day. You've got to be, otherwise you'll get found out in the end.

"When I used to run the soccer schools for Gillingham I always promoted fair play to the kids and would pull them aside if I saw any cheating, but unfortunately there will always be some who just won't play by the rules."

According to the poll, 54 per cent of children said they had witnessed bad sportsmanship in every single school match they played.

The willingness to cheat went down to 13.3 per cent for those playing individual sports.

Earlier this year Gravesend rugby player Clarence Harding was partially blinded when he was a victim of an eye-gouging attack during a match against Maidstone.

Nobody has yet been identified as causing the injury, which is still under investigation.

Picture: CHARLES HARDING

HEROES AND VILLAINS: Clarence Harding (top), and (left) Thierry Henry's handball

Recent high-profile cases of bad sportsmanship include Thierry Henry handling the ball twice before scoring to send France to the World Cup at the expense of the Republic of Ireland, and rugby's 'Bloodgate' scandal.

Kent Schools RFU secretary David Turner – who is also an England under-16 selector – said he was horrified that cheating had become almost a tradition in rugby.

"I've constantly pressed the RFU at the top level to instruct television commentators not to support cheating.

Tremendous

"They seem to think it's fine for players to pull shirts in rugby, but I think that's a dangerous view to take, and it has a knock-on effect.

"I've promoted rugby to kids for 40 years because team games can strengthen several different character traits, but cheating has no place in the game.

"I would much rather someone reached the top by being good at the sport rather than by cheating their way there."

Even though more than half the children polled said they would be willing to cheat in sport, only four per cent would describe a sportsman who played unfairly as "cool".

And some 67 per cent said that seeing someone break the rules to win would not make them do the same.

But despite the survey being carried out by the Cricket Foundation, Kent Cricket Board community manager Clair Gould said her sport did not have a cheating problem.

She said: "One of the highest priorities in cricket is fair play, and that's at every level of the game. We've seen some tremendous growth in participation in the sport over the past few years, but not a growth in misconduct at all.

"I don't think there's an issue with cheating in cricket, and if there was it would be stamped out quickly because fair play is the backbone of the game."

Elizabeth Cross awarded to family of 'a true hero'

THE grieving family of a young soldier killed by suicide bombers in Afghanistan are being awarded an Elizabeth Cross this weekend.

Rifleman James Brown, from the 3 Rifles Reconnaissance Platoon, died alongside Lance Corporal David Kirkness while manning a vehicle checkpoint in central Sangin, northern Helmand, in December, 2009.

SACRIFICE: Rfl James Brown killed by bomb

The 18-year-old, from Orpington, had only been with the platoon a week.

On Saturday, May 8, his family receive the Elizabeth Cross, which is granted to the next of kin of Armed Forces personnel killed in action.

It was introduced in July last year by Defence Secretary Bob Ainsworth as a mark of national recognition for their loss.

Rifleman Brown was described as a "true hero" by his family.

"You died a hero living your dream and you will always be in our thoughts.

"Your actions will always speak louder than words ever could. You were a true hero and will be dearly missed."

Rifleman Brown joined the 3rd Battalion the Rifles in October, 2009, and was deployed to Afghanistan as a battle casualty replacement at the end of November.

Lieutenant Colonel Nick Kitson, commanding officer 3 Rifles Battle Group, said: "He had been with the battalion for a desperately short time, but was showing the promising signs of a soldier with a bright future.

"Amid this tragedy, we take some small comfort, but immense pride, in the fact that he and the soldiers who died with him, both Afghan and British, averted a much larger tragedy.

"Their sacrifice prevented two suicide bombers from reaching their intended target, the bustling Sangin bazaar. It is all the more difficult to come to terms with the loss of one so young and we are all deprived of the joy of watching his promise unfold."

KCC stand-in boss

AN INTERIM chief executive will take charge at Kent County Council until Peter Gilroy's successor joins the authority in July.

Councillors will be asked at a meeting on Thursday to approve the temporary appointment, who will act as the head of paid service until Katherine Kerswell arrives.

David Cockburn – the council's executive director of strategy, economic development and ICT – is thought to be a frontrunner for the job.

The day of the meeting is also Mr Gilroy's last in charge.

Show free for kids

CHILDREN will receive free admission to the Kent County Show in an attempt to boost ticket sales.

Adults who book online or via the ticket hotline will each receive a complimentary pass for a youngster aged between five and 15. This means a family of two adults and up to four children can attend the show – held at Kent Showground from July 16-18 – for an advance price of £30.

Call 01622 633060 or visit www.kentshow.co.uk.

To watch this clip search 'emin'
@ yourkenttv.co.uk

Tracey Emin discusses her art and life in Margate ahead of the unveiling of her newest piece

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Liar, thug and killer of baby daughter out in 18 months

A BABY killer who constantly lied to police about how his daughter died will be set free in just 18 months.

LYING: Sellman

Christopher Sellman, 24, from Tunbridge Wells, was found guilty at an earlier hearing of the manslaughter of 25-day-old Tiffany Burdge, and was sentenced to five years on Thursday.

However, he will serve just half of that behind bars, minus the 367 days he has already spent in custody awaiting trial. Maidstone Crown Court heard how Sellman had told people at least five different accounts of what had happened on the night of his daughter's death, November 2, 2008.

It was also later revealed a social worker did nothing when warned by a relative of the baby's mother that Sellman had previously been convicted for violence and cautioned for child cruelty.

Defenceless

Det Chief Insp David Chewter said: "I'm pleased the court found Sellman guilty for the death of a defenceless child. He has never been able to provide a consistent account of what happened to Tiffany.

"She was a well cared-for baby and her mother, Pamela, looked after her with love and devotion. She left her daughter in the hands of someone who should have been there to protect and keep her safe.

"Pamela's life has been turned upside down and she continues to struggle with her terrible loss."

Sellman at first claimed his baby had trapped wind and went "floppy", losing colour. However, he later changed his story when it was revealed she had a fractured skull, instead claiming she hit her head on a changing table when he accidentally dropped her.

After Sellman was found guilty of manslaughter in March, Kent County Council's head of child protection services, Rosalind Turner, issued a public apology when it emerged a social worker had been warned about his violent past.

She said: "An independent review identified a missed opportunity within children's social services to share information. This was an isolated example of human error and we deeply regret that this has occurred."

To see this search 'racing' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Kent racing driver Shaun Hollamby gives yourkenttv a tour of his British Touring Car Championship team's base

NHS night cover under pressure from cutbacks

By MARIJKE COX
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HEALTH trusts are employing just a handful of medical staff for out-of-hours care in a bid to cut spending.

It comes as pressure mounts on the NHS to make budget cuts totalling £20 billion to cope with the UK's £167bn debt. For the South East region alone, savings of £1.2bn are needed.

Unions have said more nurses, who receive significantly lower pay than doctors, are being employed for out-of-hours services to save money. These are for patients who don't need to attend casualty, but need night-time care and would normally phone their GP.

And Tory health spokesman Andrew Lansley attacked Labour's "mismanagement" of the GP contract, claiming the party had left the public short of GP access and support at evenings and weekends.

In NHS West Kent, a small number of medical staff provide care for the 674,600 population at night. Figures released by the trust showed that in the southern part of the area, night shifts are covered by two GPs, two face-to-face nurses and three triage nurses.

Balance

In the northern part, one doctor is provided and no nurses. A spokesman said that on occasions, during quieter periods, there were more nurses than doctors, but denied it had anything to do with them being cheaper to employ.

He said the balance of doctors and nurses was selected on the basis of the level of care needed.

"South East Health, which provides the out-of-hours service in west Kent, assesses the mix of skills they need carefully to ensure the balance of staff is right for the level and type of demand at any time," he said.

"In west Kent the service includes doctors, nurses and trained call-handlers.

"During the week, when GP surgeries are open between 8am and 6.30pm, there is a much lower need for GPs out of hours, while nurses can provide appropriate help for many people who need the service. Nurses are also used to triage patients coming into the service so GPs can more effectively prioritise cases."

South East Health provides out-of-service care for 2.2 million patients in East Sussex, east and west Kent, and Brighton and Hove.

While NHS West Kent has just six staff

for its night-time service, Eastern and Coastal Kent NHS, which covers a population of 732,000, has eight GPs and one nurse on its 6pm to midnight shifts, and four GPs from midnight to 8am. These figures differ from other UK trusts where there is just one doctor for 300,000 patients. Medway NHS has two GPs and one nurse available to the 250,000 population of Medway during the night.

And six GPs and two nurses are also on duty during the week between 6.30pm and 1am.

The out-of-hours MedOCC service is provided by Medway Community Healthcare.

Karen Morgan, Medway Community Healthcare's head of urgent care, said: "We are proud of our nurses, who are specialists in the diagnosis and treatment of minor illnesses, and provide an important part of the care offered by MedOCC. We monitor demand closely and our experience is that this is the right level to ensure patients get fast, effective, safe care.

"If there were to be a change in demand, we would be able to respond quickly because most of the GPs who work for MedOCC are local doctors, based in Medway."

A Kent spokeswoman for the British Medical Association said nurses are now also used to assess the severity of a call.

"NHS Direct used to do the triaging; however, this is now done by nurses within the Kent out-of-hours organisation," she said.

A spokesman for the GMB union said: "Some health trusts may be trying to save money by employing nurses instead of GPs for out-of-hours services. This is not the case for all trusts.

"GPs and nurses are concerned about this and we are talking to our members."

News and sport updated daily online
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RNLI rescue of sat nav sailors

A CREW using a car's satellite navigation sytem on a 32ft motor cruiser had to be rescued by Sheerness lifeboat.

The rescue follows the case last week of a rookie sailor who tried to use a road atlas to get from Gillingham to Southampton – and ended up sailing twice round the Isle of Sheppey before running aground.

Sheerness lifeboat was called to the sat nav sailors' vessel, Myra Two, after it ran aground on route to Rochester from Teddington, at 11.48am last Sunday.

The crew of two, from Orpington and Sydenham, were taken to Queenborough Harbour, where lifeboatmen found the men had no charts, flares or functioning radio, and were using a car sat nav for directions.

Leas Cliff Ozzy gig rumoured

ROCK legend Ozzy Osbourne is to play a one-off show at the Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, it has been reported.

The self-styled Prince of Darkness and former Black Sabbath frontman is to appear on Thursday, June 29, according to music website eGigs.

Osbourne's 11th studio album, Scream, is released on June 15 and it is thought the low-key show will be the first opportunity for fans to hear his new material live.

It will be the first time he has played the UK in three years.

THE INTERVIEW

BY JANE CONNOLLY

Gallery bridges exhibition gap

EMERGING artists have the chance to get involved in the big picture at Wobblybridge Art Gallery.

Opened just last month, the gallery in Tunbridge Wells focuses on giving studio and exhibition space to new artists. Run by web and graphic designer Paul Leeson, the Camden Road venue also offers the opportunity for art lovers to discover Kent's exciting new talent.

"I've been running an online gallery since 1999, in one form or another, and it's still attached to the website," he said. "It allows artists to upload their work free of charge. They can't sell online, but it's more about putting their work out there. The gallery is an extension of that."

Leeson, 39, decided to take his venture from cyber space to the real world in order to offer greater opportunities for artists who might find it difficult to exhibit elsewhere.

Showcase

"I funded it myself and commission is very low – 25 per cent. If artists want to rent space and work in here as well, they can use it as a studio for a week or a month," he said.

"I wanted to be different from others in Tunbridge Wells and promote solo shows. It's a gallery for artists to showcase their work and I didn't want it to be just a bit of a gallery and a shop."

As the son of an artist, Leeson inherited a love of art and, an aspiring painter himself, he can appreciate the challenges that new artists often face.

"I do paint, but I never show my work. It's hanging in the house and my wife won't let me sell it," he said. "There are many artists like me, with a multitude of paintings stuck in a room that will probably never see the light of day. I would never go to the galleries in the Pantiles and say 'Would you be interested in showing my work?' But with this gallery, I want to get the message across that it is available."

Leeson is particularly interested in showing the work of final-year art students and hopes to get local colleges interested in using the space. Given the opportunity to show their work to the public and raise awareness of their talent, many young artists could find that Wobblybridge Art Gallery provides an invaluable kick-start to their career.

"The amount of artists I've met since opening, whose work I would never have seen otherwise, is amazing," Leeson said.

"I would say that there is new talent coming through and, hopefully, that can only grow. The other galleries in Tunbridge Wells would probably not show their work and I want to be available to them. We curate work and we don't just put anything in, but I want it to be a space that artists can use."

To find out more about Wobblybridge Art Gallery, call 01892 548260 or visit the website at www.wobblybridge.co.uk.

IN THE FRAME: Owner Paul Leeson provides local artists with a space to exhibit their work at Wobblybridge Art Gallery (inset)

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Man begs for UK return after hell of Indian prison

By MARIJKE COX

A BACKPACKER tortured and locked up for six years in an Indian jail has given up his fight for innocence and begged to come home.

Patrick Malluzzo, from Dartford, has applied for a transfer to a British prison, even though it means dropping an appeal in the Indian Supreme Court to quash his conviction.

But the 32-year-old, who was arrested in 2004 for possession of cannabis, said his fight had "reached the end of the road".

"My family and I have been fighting for justice in India for the last six years – a fight which has taken a serious toll on all of us," he said.

"I want to return to the UK so that I can be close to my family."

Mr Malluzzo was arrested while backpacking in India when a bag containing 19kg cannabis – worth £2,000 in India – was found under train seats booked in his name and that of his co-accused 'J'.

He had not used the seat after a change in travel plans, but a bag of his dirty washing and personal belongings were found with the drugs.

He claimed he had asked J – another British backpacker – to take them so he could travel light, arranging to meet him at a later date in Goa. The pair met and J said he had got off the train to buy food and it had left the station with the belongings.

Former City worker Mr Malluzzo said he had thought nothing of it and booked flights to Thailand for the next part of his trip.

But he was arrested at Mumbai Airport and charged with possession of cannabis, despite there being no witnesses to link him to the crime.

Mr Malluzzo – then 26 – was locked up and forced to wait two years for a trial, during which time he claimed to be tortured, saying authorities flogged him with pieces of hard rubber, burnt his body with cigarettes and used pliers on his genitals.

Unable to cope with the torture and escalating violence he signed a confession and was sentenced to 10 years in Kota jail in Rajasthan.

His co-accused J was acquitted on the same evidence, even though he had been arrested before the trial for similar cannabis-related offences.

An appeal in the Rajasthan High Court earlier this year also proved unsuccessful.

Now, in a desperate attempt to return to the UK, Mr Malluzzo has said he will drop his next appeal in the hope it means he can come home and transfer to a British prison.

"I do not think we can continue the fight in the Supreme Court and live through another two years of this ordeal while that goes on," he said. "I implore the governments of the UK and India not to hold up my family's reunion. Please bring me home as soon as possible."

Mr Malluzzo currently shares a cell with 54 other inmates who sleep head-to-toe on a stone floor. He has contracted malaria and is covered in rat bites.

Lawyers from Fair Trials International, who have been helping fight his case, said they understand his decision.

Jago Russell, chief executive of the organisation, said: "Patrick and his family have shown great courage over the last six years and it is a travesty this young man will come home with a guilty conviction."

PRAYING: Backpacker Patrick Malluzzo

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Harbour plans to be revealed for consultation

LONG-awaited plans for the future redevelopment of Folkestone harbour are soon to be revealed, with the public invited to give their own feedback.

Architect Sir Terry Farrell has been appointed by site-owner the Folkestone Harbour Company to come up with proposals, which will be on show for the public to see.

The FHC originally hired Norman Foster to draw up a masterplan, which was then put on hold due to the economic downturn.

It is thought some of his ideas will be incorporated into Sir Terry's new designs.

Harbour company spokesman Trevor Minter said: "This process will offer local people opportunities to hear about the new approach that Sir Terry Farrell is advocating.

"We are keen to receive feedback, and people will have a chance to put forward their ideas for development of the public areas."

Exhibition

Public meetings on the proposals will be held at Quarterhouse in Folkestone's Tontine Street on Tuesday, May 18 at 7pm; Tuesday, May 25, at 7pm; Thursday, June 3, at 2pm; Monday, June 14, at 7pm; and Saturday, June 26, at 11am.

Places at each presentation are free but must be reserved by calling the Quarterhouse box office on 01303 858500, or by emailing info@quarterhouse.co.uk.

A public exhibition will be held at 3-7 Tontine Street, which is within view of part of the proposed site, from May 26-June 9, open from 10am-4pm each day.

Schools in the area will be invited to take part in the consultation, and an online summary will also be available from mid-May at www.folkestoneharbour.com.

Flying in the face of threats to our wildlife

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

WILDLIFE in the Thames Estuary should be better protected against potentially harmful developments like Boris Island, says the RSPB.

The charity believes conservation should be about more than just nature reserves and should instead be about the entire landscape, putting the environment at the heart of every planning issue.

It has identified the Thames Estuary as the first of several planned 'Futurescape' regions, which would involve the RSPB teaming up with other conservation groups, businesses, local authorities and communities to protect the various animals, plants and birds living there.

Such a partnership could spell the end for controversial proposals like Boris Island – London Mayor Boris Johnson's idea for a floating airport off the coast of the Isle of Sheppey.

"Wrecking the best places we've got isn't a terribly good place to start," said RSPB spokesman Andre Farrar.

"Proposals like Boris Island would rip the heart out of the Thames Estuary.

"Those behind plans like this are harking back to older ways of thinking that really don't deliver for the Thames and the people around it, and in the end would be hugely damaging to nature that is already in decline.

"It's a habitat that occurs in very few places in the world so we have a huge responsibility to ensure we put the future of these very special places at the heart of decision-making."

HOME: The Thames Estuary 'Futurescape' region is vital to birds such as the avocet

The RSPB owns or manages some 40 square kilometres of land for wildlife on the Thames and has spent more than £50 million regenerating its land in the region.

The estuary is listed as the fifth most important site for water birds in the UK, as it is home to an average 186,302.

In 2002, the charity joined other campaigners in successfully defeating the Government's plans for an estuary airport at Cliffe, near Rochester, and is currently working with developers to ensure the Thames Gateway project benefits local wildlife as well as residents.

The RSPB is also campaigning against the Lydd airport expansion programme, fearing the increased use of nitrogen from planes will drastically change the local biology.

Mr Farrar said: "This year is the International Year of Biodiversity, but we now know for certain the decline in wildlife globally and in the UK is continuing, so governments have failed to keep a promise they made a decade ago.

"We've seen some great successes like stopping the Cliffe airport and saving the bitterns and stone curlews from extinction, but more needs to be done. Futurescapes are about working with local authorities and developers to manage wildlife better and to ensure conservation is not an afterthought."

Other areas identified as possible RSPB Futurescapes include the Wiltshire Chalk Grasslands, the Humberside Levels, the North Wales Moors, and the tidal zone of the Inner Forth, Scotland.

Find more news and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

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Girls just want to raise funds

THE voices of 100 Kent women and a host of celebrities have hit the airwaves in a bid to top the charts and raise money for cancer research, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Music moguls hope their remake of 80s classic Girls Just Want to Have Fun will reach number one as millions of women take to the streets in this year's 5km Race for Life, which is being held at towns across the UK over the next three months.

As the country's largest female-only event, the campaign, led by Cancer Research UK, has raised more than £300 million since 1994.

And this year, as well as gearing up for Kent's six Race for Life events, 100 women lent their voices to the new charity single, released last week.

Some of those involved in the recording, which took place at Bluewater in February, have had their own struggles with cancer.

They feature alongside 20 celebrities, including actress Caroline Quentin, glamour model Danielle Lloyd, TV presenter Zoe Salmon and actress and singer Kym Marsh.

GIRLS ALOUD: Former EastEnders actress Lucy Benjamin, actress Rebekah Gibbs, former Hollyoaks actress Loui Batley and glamour model Nicola T joined in the singing

DJ Sonique – famous for her number one hit It Feels So Good – also took part, after stepping back into the limelight following her own battle with breast cancer.

The singer has just finished six weeks of radiotherapy after three operations to remove a cancerous lump.

The 41-year-old said: "Knowing the single features women who, like me, have been directly affected by cancer, as well as hundreds of women from across the UK, makes me feel extremely proud."

Race for Life is now in its 17th year, with more than 700,000 women taking part last year and £60m raised for Cancer Research UK's lifesaving work.

To sign up for an event or for more information about the fundraising single, priced at 79p for download, go to www.raceforlife.org.

Fatbusting scheme for youngsters is a success

HEALTH chiefs have hailed the success of a pilot scheme to tackle childhood obesity.

The Kent Healthy Early Years programme was introduced to educate under-fives and their parents about what constitutes a healthy lifestyle, and was taken up by 22 nurseries throughout the county.

Childhood obesity can lead to cancer, type 2 diabetes and heart disease in later life and the Government is keen to tackle the problem with its Healthy Schools scheme.

The Early Years spin-off was a joint initiative by Kent County Council, NHS West Kent and NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent.

West Kent healthy schools co-ordinator Liz McAvan said: "The programme has been extremely successful. The pilot has helped children make healthy choices, which is a fantastic step to improving their futures."

According to the Department of Health, the total NHS cost of diseases related to being overweight and obese in the UK is set to go up from £17.4 billion in 2007 to £22.9bn by 2050. Obese and overweight patients cost the NHS in Kent more than £564 million in 2007 – a figure that is expected to increase by £62m a year by 2015.

Director of public health Meredin Peachey said: "The feedback we've received has been very good. Children have been going home and asking for different foods, which is good because it's often hard for parents to encourage them to try new things."

The pilot ran between September, 2009, and January this year, and was funded by the Government and the two health trusts.

KCC managing director for children, families and education Rosalind Turner said: "It was a natural progression to pilot the scheme with nurseries. Living a healthy lifestyle brings benefits for the whole family and sets the child up for a positive future."

'Crisis' of our overcrowded jails

A PENAL reform charity has criticised the justice system after figures revealed prisons are overcrowded by more than 100 per cent.

HMP Canterbury, which contains only foreign prisoners, was listed at number nine in the top 20 most overpopulated prisons in England and Wales. The report, by the Howard League for Penal Reform, showed the jail was certified for use for 195 prisoners, but the population in March, 2010, was 303.

Frances Crook, director of the charity, called it a "crisis", adding: "Overcrowding results in fewer resources being available for each prisoner. Consequently, prison services focus on maintenance of basic amenities more than reintegration and security, more than purposeful activity and rehabilitation."

A total of 80 prisons out of the 139 in England and Wales are overpopulated, with around 19,000 inmates sharing a cell designed for just one person. On average, prisons are overcrowded by 111 per cent.

A spokesman from the prison service said the Ministry of Justice was unable to comment on HMP Canterbury.

He added: "Since April, 2007, over 7,500 places have been delivered under the capacity programme."

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Man's body found

A BODY has been found in public toilets.

Police were called to the scene in Canterbury Lane, Canterbury, on Tuesday, May 4, at around 5.30pm. The body of a man, aged in his early 30s, was found when the toilets were being locked for the evening.

The death is not being treated as suspicious and a report is being prepared for the coroner.

Tribute to cadet

THE family of a Sea Cadet who fell 30ft to his death from the rigging of a ship has paid tribute to a "wonderful son".

Jonathan Martin, 14, from Shadoxhurst in Ashford, died after plunging into the sea while trying to furl up sails on training ship the TS Royalist in Stokes Bay, Gosport, last Sunday.

He was recovered by lifeboat and taken by helicopter to Queen Alexandra Hospital in Cosham where he was pronounced dead.

In a statement his family described him as a "wonderful son and grandson" who died doing something he loved.

"He was a popular young man who will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

"We ask that the family is given space and time to come to the terms with their loss. In relation to the accident, it is being investigated and we have no further comment to make."

The teenager was one of 19 Sea Cadets and 10 staff on board the ship celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Sea Cadet movement.

Hampshire Constabulary is preparing a file on behalf of the coroner, and the Marine Accident Investigation Branch is investigating.

Historic films reel us back to days gone by

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

FOOTAGE from the early days of film has been brought back to life as part of a new screen heritage project.

Film-makers who signed up to the Against the Tide programme tracked down some of the people featured in the original home movie material and asked them to star in a series of new documentaries. The short films also show the original footage they are based on.

Bafta-nominated documentary maker Daisy Asquith based her new flick on a film made in the 1970s by Folkestone couple Ken and June Paine, who both died last year.

Mr Paine was a hairdresser at Rosalie's Hair Salon, and when Daisy tracked the couple down before their death she was pleased to discover he still styled his wife's hair every week.

"Permanently Yours is about enduring love and compromise," she said. "A couple in their 80s who had been together since they were teenagers.

"They met through hairdressing and had lived all their married life in hairdressing.

"The twist is that while Ken loves and obsesses over hair and, in particular, the permanent wave, June doesn't actually share his passion. Her enduring love is for her husband, and her tolerance for his weekly styling session is impressive.

MEMORIES: Subjects range from 1930s Broadstairs to hairdressing in Folkestone

"I love the idea of making use of the amazing historical archive of Super 8 and 16mm films made by passionate, non-professional film-makers, unrestricted by rules or others' expectations. The films are inspiring and totally original."

All the footage used for the project was taken from the Brighton-based Screen Archive South East, which contains some 7,000 films and 10,000 slides, as well as a significant collection of related artefacts.

Another documentary is based on 1930s Broadstairs, shot by Enid Briggs, who set up a home for retired horses.

Film-maker Wilma de Jong tracked down Ken Taylor, one of the stable boys who helped her at the time.

She said: "Back at the Ranch is a story about an unusual friendship between two people which lasted for 35 years, as well as a piece about class relations in the UK."

• ***Visit www.tide.org.uk to view the films and to leave your own stories and comments about the people featured.***

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Paedophiles named on social networking site

A FACEBOOK vigilante has named and shamed almost 200 convicted sex offenders and paedophiles – with mug shots to match, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Chris Wittwer, 34, spent two years compiling information for each county and has now exposed some 6,000 sex attackers on the social networking site, used by about 23 million people in the UK and 400 million globally.

His group UK Paedophiles Named and Shamed lists 196 offenders for the Kent area, with pictures, crimes and where they lived at the time of their offences.

About 5,000 people in the county have become members of the group, hailing Mr Wittner a "hero" for his work.

Despite concerns by police, the warehouse worker from Exeter said he is simply providing information already in the public domain.

He insists he only puts details of convicted sex offenders on the site, using court records and police press releases.

And despite being shut down when he first started the group, he was given permission to start up again after proving he was breaking no laws by showing information already available to the public.

He said: "On the site we aim to expose the paedophiles, perverts and child abuse animals that infest our society today."

Mr Wittwer has received praise from thousands of Facebook members, but Kent Police say they are treating the site with caution.

A spokeswoman said: "Any information taken from the internet and sites such as Facebook should be treated in this way as its authenticity cannot be confirmed.

"Part of Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) includes assessing risk to members of the public, and where they should be told about offenders in their community, we tell them.

Harassment

"We encourage anyone with concerns about offenders to report the information to the police or Crimestoppers."

She added: "We have invested significant resources to manage and monitor sexual offenders in the community."

A spokeswoman from Facebook said the networking site should be a place for people to openly discuss and express their views.

"It is within the terms of the site for users to express their views about a public figure, which includes views about someone who has been convicted of a crime and details related to the crime that are freely available in the media," she said.

"However, bullying and harassment of a private individual is against the terms of use of the site.

"As a community, Facebook is self-regulating, and we encourage users to report questionable or offensive content."

Last week, this newspaper revealed how 14 convicted sex offenders had gone "missing" off the police radar in Kent.

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STRENGTH: Peter Smith has used his ability to think 'differently' to protect British wildlife

'My dyslexia is a gift'

THE dyslexic founder of a popular wild animal park has hit back at those who branded him "thick and lazy" at school.

Peter Smith, chief executive of the Canterbury-based Wildwood Trust, says he is living proof that children who suffer from the condition are more than capable of going on to have successful careers.

The 39-year-old will talk to members of the East Kent Dyslexia Support Group later this month, and told KOS Media he hopes his story will inspire youngsters to work hard and "discover their inner strengths".

Mr Smith, who went to school in Blyth, Northumberland, said: "Dyslexia is not an illness but a gift – a gift that lets you understand the world in amazing ways.

"I was a bright boy at school but one teacher just couldn't understand why I wasn't very good at reading or writing. She told my parents I was thick and lazy.

"Different people have brains that work in different ways, and that's a good thing because we need people who are different.

"Einstein was dyslexic but that didn't stop him coming up with the theory of relativity."

Mr Smith said he was diagnosed with dyslexia after a kind-hearted teacher intervened when she saw him constantly being punished for laziness by his form tutor.

Helped by forward-thinking teachers and the Dyslexia Association, he went on to earn 11 O-levels, three A-levels, a degree, and four post-graduate degrees.

But his greatest accomplishment is Wildwood, which is home to a wide range of British animals including badgers, wolves, wild horses and deer.

He said: "The prejudice that exists with teachers and employers causes misery. Not only is it a huge waste to the economy to ignore the potential of dyslexic children, but we are sowing the seeds of anger that can lead to antisocial behaviour.

Mr Smith will give his talk at the Spires Academy, Sturry, at 8.30pm on Tuesday, May 25. To book, call 0845 0038 979 or email info_desk@btinternet.com.

A celebration of young achievers

A CELEBRATION of the achievements of Kent's young people – past, present and future is being held at the Detling Showground, Maidstone.

The event from 2-5.30pm on Saturday, May 15, will recognise everyone from children who helped the war effort, to today's young carers and entrepreneurs.

More than 400 representatives from across Kent and Medway have been invited to showcase their talents and join the chairman of Kent County Council John Davies, the Lord Lieutenant Allan Willett, and Mayor of Medway David Royle for a tea party.

The showcase will include performances from youth bands and theatre groups.

Celebrating the great escape

DELIVERANCE: Troops board a vessel during the evacuation of Dunkirk in 1940, codenamed Operation Dynamo

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

SEVENTY years ago this month, Admiral Bertram Ramsay led the famous evacuation of 330,000 Allied troops from Dunkirk to Britain as the German enemy closed in.

Initial hopes of rescuing 30,000 troops grew as civilians took their own small boats to help the Navy with the rescue, travelling alongside transport ships and destroyers.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill called it "a miracle of deliverance" as troops were ferried in an assortment of vessels, including fishing boats and yachts, which were later named the "little ships".

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of what was known as Operation Dynamo and to pay tribute to the contribution made by the brave civilians, the Ramsgate Heritage Partnership is holding a day of memorials, called Dynamo Day, on Wednesday, May 26.

The harbour town was one of many on the south coast to see flotillas of little ships leave to rescue troops from the beaches of northern France from May 26-June 4, 1940. It was also a reception point for the returning troops and many casualties.

Fifty of the surviving little ships and a Royal Navy frigate are expected to sail into Ramsgate for the Dynamo Day commemorations.

To welcome them will be Major General Charles Ramsay, the son of Operation Dynamo mastermind Admiral Ramsay, and Celia Sandys, granddaughter of Churchill.

Alexander Thompson, chairman of the Ramsgate Heritage Partnership, said: "This is a major event which, while commemorating the heroism of the past, will allow us to show that the Dunkirk spirit never really died.

"Ramsgate, like many parts of Britain, still has a strong community spirit and civic pride.

"With military commemorations taking place in France, this is an opportunity for the UK to highlight the remarkable role the people of Ramsgate and the South East played both on land and at sea."

The Lord Lieutenant of Kent, Allan Willett, will inspect the little ships in the harbour and the Reverend Tom Heffer, Secretary General of the Mission to Seafarers, will bless them before they set sail to Dunkirk on Thursday, May 27.

Events will take place around the harbour all day, with fireworks and a 1940s theme night at the Belgium Bar.

• ***For full details of the event visit www.visitthanet.co.uk.***

DIY store fires could be linked

POLICE investigating a major blaze at Homebase in Aylesford say it could be linked to two other incidents.

The fire started last Saturday afternoon and firefighters were still at the scene on Monday.

It was not until Wednesday that forensic offers were able to consider entering the building to collect evidence, because it was so dangerous.

An hour after the first blaze, a fire was extinguished in the lighting section of B&Q in Larkfield.

In a separate incident on Monday at 2pm, B&Q staff in Maidstone found "the preparation of a fire" in a wood aisle of the store.

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- A demonstration of our new website and DVDs showcasing our services
- 1pm - 1.30pm. A chance to question senior NHS staff on a 'Question Time' panel
- Copies of the Agenda and papers will be available on our website, please visit www.eckcommunityservices.nhs.uk

For questions relating to the agenda please contact:
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STRIDES: Explore Kent wants you walking

AS MUSIC fans prepare for the much-anticipated festival season, a very different celebration is being launched in the Kent countryside, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

For instead of rock bands, beer tents and dancing, this three-month festival promotes what has been an ongoing activity for years – walking.

But where in the past it have been a pastime reserved mainly for older people, organisers from the Countryside Access Service at County Hall believe their new project, Explore Kent, can change all that.

The 12-week walking festival, launched two weeks ago, aims to reach out and show people of all ages the fun they can have on their own doorstep.

"We know it won't appeal to everyone, but families, groups of friends and people wanting to meet others will really enjoy it," said Rebecca Hoffman, senior project officer for Explore Kent.

"It really is an underestimated activity. There are stunning guided walks around the coastline and countryside for a range of abilities for different types of people."

And with some 1,000 guided walks, Ms Hoffman said there is one to suit everyone.

"We really want to see more people out there walking," she said.

"It is often seen as an old-fashioned thing to do. Instead people jump in their cars, they pay to go to the cinema and amusement parks, when there is so much here they can do for free.

"When you're in a car you miss out on so much. We want to celebrate walking and get more people out there."

The project has also been launched to help tackle health problems, such as obesity and depression.

Working closely with the NHS, the Explore Kent team has researched how walking can prevent ill health.

Ms Hoffman said: "Prevention is easier than cure. This activity is extremely important in maintaining good health. It makes people feel better mentally so they can tackle their problems head on.

"Secondly, it stops people becoming isolated. Recently we had two ladies, one had just lost her husband and the other's had left her. They made friends and said it had changed their lives.

"It's often the simple things in life that can make a difference and the walking festival really shows this."

The festival was launched two weeks ago in Sturry Road Community Park in Canterbury with a family fun day.

Of the 900 attending, more than 150 went on walks in the nearby countryside.

Ms Hoffman added: "These guided walks are always there for people, but this festival promotes them and shows people how easy it is to get involved.

"It's not what most would associate with a festival, but they should come along – you shouldn't miss out on this."

For more information or to book a guided walk visit www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent or call 08458 247600.

Evacuees recall moving tales of World War Two

AS A 12-year-old with nothing but a suitcase and a gasmask slung over his shoulder, evacuee George Prager waited patiently to be taken to his new home.

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

But as families came and went, and other evacuees were taken away, Gillingham town hall became empty except for the small boy and one other child.

It was 1939 and World War Two was about to start, and George was being sent from Medway to the countryside by his grandparents, away from the threat of attack. He was one of 3.5 million people, mainly children, evacuated either privately or through the Government over a six-year period.

Some were sent to stay with relatives, but in most cases – such as George's – the youngsters were put with families unknown to them who were obliged to take in evacuees.

His account is one of 13 included in a new book by John Welshman, Churchill's Children – The Evacuee Experience in Wartime Britain, retelling the poignant stories of evacuee children who were sent away from their families.

Pleasant

George, now 83, said: "There was me and another boy called Norman left waiting in the town hall for somebody to take us to their home. People would come in and take the ones they liked the look of.

"I remember a lady finally coming in and leading us out to a big car and we were driven to a big house in Sandwich, near to Royal St George's Golf Club. We didn't know at the time, but this lady was a film star called Judy Gunn."

Gunn was a well-known actress of the time having starred in several films, including romantic comedy The Love Test in 1935, directed by acclaimed Bekesbourne-born film director Michael Powell.

George said: "She had a cook and a maid – this kind of lifestyle was very alien to me. I was used to a more domestic life in Gillingham with my grandparents.

"Judy Gunn was very pleasant, but she had wanted to take on girls and so was a bit cool with us."

Less than a year later, after war had been declared and the situation in France was deteriorating, George was packed off with 40 other boys to south Wales.

After a short stay in Whitchurch, a suburb of Cardiff, he was moved to the family of a railway guard in the village of Rhymney.

"They were very cool towards me and never treated me like their own," he said.

"But in 1941, when I was 13, some boys went back to Gillingham and as billets became vacant I was moved to another family who lived closer to my school.

"They treated me as a member of their own family. They had a son five years younger than me and anything he got, I got.

"After I left I stayed in touch with them and I still see my 'wartime brother' now."

But where George's story was a happy one, others were not so good.

Mr Welshman explained how some evacuees had horrific experiences.

"Mary-Rose Benton, who was another Kent evacuee, was treated very badly by the family she was put with when she was just seven," he said.

"There was a culture clash and she was physically and verbally abused and often not given enough to eat. Her account is very moving and different from George's."

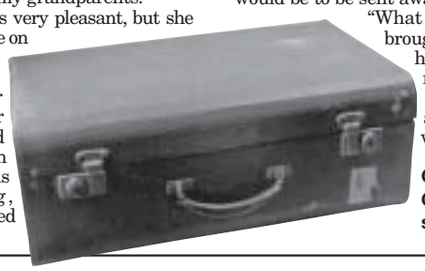
Mr Welshman, a senior lecturer in the history department of Lancaster University, said his book gives a real insight into the experiences of an evacuee.

"For many it was a happy time which allowed them to broaden their horizons," he said. "Of course, it was still a very difficult time and there were some cases of abuse.

"People seem to have a real interest in the evacuees. Everybody has been a child and everyone can probably imagine how hard it would be to be sent away at a young age.

"What this book really brought home to me was how varied the stories are."

The book is £16.99 and available at www.oup.com.



OLD FAVOURITE: George Prager's suitcase from 1939

Dawn raid caught dealer with cocaine stash worth £1 million

JAIL TERM: Oliver

A DRUG dealer caught with more than £1 million of cocaine has been jailed for seven years.

Christopher Oliver, 25, was also hiding £45,000 in cash when police executed a dawn raid at his home in Bonaventure Court, Gravesend, on March 2. He attempted to escape, but was found hiding in a nearby garden carrying a large box containing the drugs.

Oliver appeared at Maidstone Crown Court last Friday, when he pleaded guilty to one count of possession with intent to supply Class A drugs.

Judge Andrew Patience, sentencing, said Oliver was not the 'gofer' he claimed to be, but a trusted member of a drugs ring.

Det Con Adam Denny said afterwards: "I am pleased with the result, which reflects the seriousness of the offence.

"It is also good news that this substantial amount of cocaine was seized and has therefore not made it onto the streets of Gravesend.

"We will continue to work to disrupt and dismantle drugs networks in north Kent."

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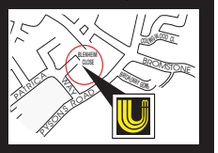

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Neon tracks of Tracey's tears

BRIGHT IDEA: Artist Tracey Emin (inset) in Margate for neon sign

A TEARFUL Tracey Emin launched her new neon artwork and exhibition on Margate seafront.

The Thanet-raised artist said she had promised herself she wouldn't cry but did so anyway as she addressed hundreds of people from the steps of Droit House on Friday evening, last week.

The 'I Never Stopped Loving You' neon sign on the façade of the building was officially turned on for the first time at 7pm. She was given a rousing reception from those who had gathered to watch.

Ms Emin, 46, she hoped her sign would be a place under which people will have stop to "have a snog". She added: "I'm hoping they will find it romantic."

Accompanying the sign is a 13-print exhibition in Droit House. The project was commissioned by the Turner Contemporary and will be illuminated until 10pm each night.

Miss Emin said: "It looks amazing. Walking round town today, everyone was coming up and shaking my hand for what I've done for Margate. I've done very little, but I've always championed this town and people appreciate that. Every time I come back, the sea and the sunset always amazes me."

The former Turner Prize nominee said the Turner Contemporary gallery, due to open next spring, will be a real asset to the town.

She said: "The people of Margate are going to love having a cup of tea there and they might even look at the art, too!

"There is going to be a fantastic education centre here for all ages and people will really enjoy it."

Help them learn our children's language

FUN LEARNING: Dr Kirsten Abbot-Smith studies child language development

PARENTS are being asked to put their children forward to help psychologists understand how youngsters learn and develop.

The School of Psychology at the University of Kent has launched its new Kent Child Development Unit to investigate mysteries such as why some children find learning to talk more difficult than others.

Other areas of study include how children decide who to learn from, how they pick up the art of conversation, and why and when they start to learn from their peers.

Dr Kirsten Abbot-Smith is one of the scholars working at the unit, she has a particular interest in child language development.

Disorders

She said: "Research in language development is extremely important in that it contributes to our understanding of developmental disorders, many of which – because of that understanding – can be remedied.

"With the new unit we hope to advance our understanding of how child language development interacts with how children learn to understand other humans as people with their own intentions and beliefs.

"My primary aim is to look at how normal developing children learn languages, as in what is easy and what's difficult. The knock-on effect is that we might be able to find ways to help children who find it difficult to learn."

One of the techniques used involves an eye-tracker camera that monitors where children look on the television screen when watching a specially-made cartoon.

This then indicates which words they understand and which they do not.

Dr Abbot-Smith said that they had managed to find plenty of under-twos to take part in the study, but they needed more five-year-olds.

She added: "The parents of very young children tend to be very interested in their development. Most notice how quickly they can pick things up and they're intrigued by that.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

"All of our studies are aimed to be fun for the children, who generally enjoy taking part.

"Studies usually involve only a single visit and parents are encouraged to stay with their children so they get a first-hand look at what the researchers are studying and how their children understand the games."

Visit www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/childdevelopmentunit or call 01227 827424 for further details about taking part.

Elderly rescued by firefighters

SOME 26 people had to be rescued from a blaze at a residential care home.

The fire broke out in a ground floor laundry room at The Chase in Ethelbert Road, Canterbury, shortly before 11pm on Monday, May 3.

Four fire engines were needed to tackle the blaze, and crews wearing breathing apparatus carried residents to safety.

Crew manager Steve Davies said: "There was a lot of smoke but we managed to contain the blaze to the laundry room and it was extinguished in half an hour.

"Crews were busy carrying a number of residents to safety and there were several who needed oxygen therapy at the scene, but everyone was accounted for."

Fourteen residents were taken to hospital to be treated for the effects of smoke inhalation and shock. The cause of the blaze is believed to be a fire in a tumble dryer.

Home manager Terri Wall said: "The firefighters were marvellous and did a fantastic job. I'm pleased our staff were so on the ball too, and I thank them for the way they acted."

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Election Results

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HOW YOUR VOTES SHAPED THE NEW POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

A full breakdown of the results for every constituency

Analysis of how the major parties performed, and why the county went blue

The constitutional situation explained

Election night reports and photos from around Kent

Meet the first black female Tory MP

Labour and the Lib Dems plan their political return

GENERAL ELECTION MAY 6, 2010 Politicians' reflections after a

Tories celebrate bluewash

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

VETERAN Tory figures are in high spirits despite their party failing to win the overall majority that would have made David Cameron Prime Minister.

Shadow immigration minister Damien Green and recently-retired duo Michael Howard and Ann Widdecombe are all celebrating the party's best election results since 1997, despite not quite being good enough to win outright power.

At one point the Tories were odds-on favourites to win Thursday's General Election, but a strong Labour fight-back in recent months resulted in a hung Parliament.

Ms Widdecombe – who served as MP for Maidstone and the Weald for 23 years – said she was focusing on the positives.

She added: "I don't think we were ever going to win by a huge majority because we already had a lot of work to do to overtake Labour and reach a point where we could form any sort of government.

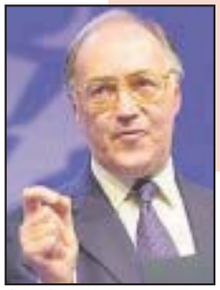
Moral victors

"It shouldn't be forgotten we made the largest number of gains for more than 80 years and Labour had the largest number of losses.

"It's a little bit flat and it would have been nice to achieve an overall majority, but it was a very satisfactory night and we are the moral victors."

Despite the Tories failing to win power, the party had a hugely successful night in Kent and was able to wipe Labour off the political map.

High-profile casualties included former transport minister Steve Ladyman and South East minister Jonathan Shaw, neither of whom could do anything to halt the Conservative juggernaut that tore through the Garden of England.



SATISIFED: Former Tory leader Michael Howard

Shadow immigration minister Damian Green – the MP for Ashford – said: "I think people are of an independent mind in Kent.

"They don't like being told what to do and want to be allowed to get on with their lives, and I think that inclines them to vote Conservative.

"It sends a clear signal about who the people of Kent want to lead the next government."

When asked where his party went wrong nationally, Mr Green replied: "I think it's impossible to say we've gone wrong when we've won the number of seats we have, and when we've received the biggest share of the vote.

"By any normal standards it's a very, very good result."

Five years ago when Michael Howard was the Conservative leader, he predicted that his party would win every seat in Kent at the 2005 election.

The former Folkestone and Hythe MP was proved wrong on that occasion but his forecast came true this time around.

He said: "The people of Kent have showed some very good sense during this election. I think they've seen the mess Gordon Brown has made of things and they want a change.

"I think a Conservative government will deliver that change for the better and I very much hope that's going to happen.

"It's disappointing that we weren't able to win an absolute majority but we still did very well."

Beaten MPs vow Labour fightback

LABOUR'S veteran politicians have vowed to fight another day and said the General Election is not the end for their party.

Despite losing the seven remaining Kent seats in a Tory 'bluewash', three of Labour's long-serving representatives have guaranteed a strong future.

Dr Stephen Ladyman, former MP for Thanet South and minister for transport, said the party will start again as it did before the 1997 elections when the county was completely Conservative.

"All the former local MPs have strong reputations, but it wasn't about us, this was about the national elections, which is why good Labour politicians didn't get voted back in," he said.

"I guarantee Labour will make a come back – we will work on our local elections next May and capitalise on that foundation."

Dr Ladyman, who spent three terms in office, said the party was affected by what was happening nationally, as well as the unpopularity of Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

"He was an issue in the elections and this affected the result," he said.

"A lot of people dislike him and a lot of people respect him. People focused on his character flaws, but if you looked at how many people respected him, you can see a good balance.

"I will always support the Labour leader."

Dr Ladyman, who was beaten by Tory Laura Sandys for the Thanet South seat by 7,617 votes, would not comment on whether a new leader would be good for the party, stating a decision would be made once the election outcome had settled down.

Asked whether he would back Mr Brown as Prime Minister, he said: "It depends on what coalition is agreed.

"If the coalition has the most seats, then why not?"

Gwyn Prosser, who served the Dover and Deal Constituency for 13 years, echoed his colleague's words, claiming Labour could turn things around nationally and locally.

He was ousted by Tory Charlie Elphicke who secured the seat by 5,274 votes.

Mr Prosser said: "Thirteen years ago before 1997 there was not a single Labour MP in the county and only two in the South East, and then our fortunes changed."

OUSTED: Steve Ladyman lost his Thanet South seat

Speaking about his rival party's campaign he admitted the 'Vote for Change' message may have attracted voters.

"It was hugely seductive and the electorate chose to give them a chance," he said.

"But this is absolutely not the end for Labour in Kent and nationally we don't know who's going to be Prime Minister this time next year.

"It is likely there will be another General Election and whatever happens we will continue doing what we have always done and fight for what's best for the county."

He added: "We at the Labour party know David Cameron has no credible plans to take this country into recovery.

"I've always supported Gordon Brown as leader and when he was Chancellor. People may not be attracted to him as a person, but he is a competent Prime Minister who has worked extremely hard to help this country recover."

Carroll mystified by the Lib Dem flop

DEFEATED Lib Dem Peter Carroll described the failure of his party on a national level as "a mystery" after losing his third successive election battle.

The Gurkha Justice Campaign founder polled 17,602 votes in Maidstone and the Weald – an increase of 13.2 per cent – but still finished almost 6,000 behind his Conservative opponent Helen Grant.

His failure to win the seat mirrored the collapse of the Lib Dems across the country, as the so-called 'Cleggmania' phenomenon failed to materialise.

BAFFLED: Peter Carroll

Mr Carroll, who also ran for election in 2001 and 2005, said: "I'm disappointed because I thought we had an outside chance of winning [in Maidstone].

"I was really pleased with the campaign we put together, but it wasn't the best night and not the result we were hoping for.

"To be honest, it's a little bit of a mystery as to why the party did not do as well as expected. I don't think anyone knows the answer to that.

"We were second in the polls beforehand but only ended up with 23 per cent of the vote, so either lots of those people didn't vote or they changed their minds at the last minute and went for the safer options."

The Lib Dems were predicted to have their best election results in a generation due to the surge in popularity that followed Nick Clegg's dazzling performance in the first leaders' debate.

But there are now fears the party may struggle to recover after squandering a golden opportunity to make an impact.

"I think political parties are like living things," said Mr Carroll. "They take a kicking and get battered and bruised, but they can still get back on their feet.

"I think that's what we'll see happen with the Lib Dems."

Mr Carroll's optimism was shared by his fellow party member in Canterbury, Guy Voizey, who scored 16,002 votes but still finished second behind Tory veteran Julian Brazier.

Mr Voizey increased the Lib Dems' share of the vote by 11.1 per cent and told KOS Media it was not all doom and gloom for the party.

He said: "I don't think it's a case of us having to recover, because on a local level we are in a stronger position than we were this time last week.

"I was shocked when I saw how we had done nationally because I thought Nick Clegg had come across well in Canterbury and we were gaining support because of it."

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night which left no-one in any doubt as to who runs the county, if not the nation

First lady Helen gave no thought to issue of race

ONE of Kent's victors has become the first black female in history to become a Conservative MP.

Helen Grant, elected for the Maidstone and the Weald constituency, stormed to victory in Thursday's elections, beating rival Liberal Democrat Peter Carroll by 5,889 votes.

The mother-of-two, who was brought up on a council estate in Carlisle, also beat Labour candidate Rav Seeruthun by a massive 18,722 votes.

But Mrs Grant told KOS Media she has not focused on the fact she is the first ever black female Tory MP.

"I don't think about it really, but I know that being first and being different is of interest to some people," she said.

"If it helps break through one of those glass ceilings and encourages others to climb through as well, then I think it is a good thing for our party and for our country."

The solicitor, who vowed never to play the race card, said her election showed a strength in society rather than a change in the Tory Party.

NEW: Helen Grant has won the Maidstone and the Weald seat

"Yes, the local Conservative members selected me as their candidate, but it was the people of Maidstone and the Weald who chose me as their next MP," she said.

Mrs Grant said she was extremely proud of her campaign team, claiming that "good, old-fashioned hard work and positive campaigning" was the best way to win the trust of constituents.

She added: "There was a strong desire for a change in government in terms of approach, sincerity and competence, not just in Kent, but nationally.

"David Cameron's offering was the only one that could fulfil this wish."

Mrs Grant has always given the Tory leader as her reason for joining the party.

Her husband Simon, who has been at the forefront of her campaign, said he was very proud of his wife's success.

But for Liberal Democrat Peter Carroll, the results marked a bitter blow in what was his third election night defeat since 2001.

Asked if he was likely to stand again, Mr Carroll said: "I am disappointed that I didn't do as well as I had hoped, but I am pleased with the Liberal Democrats' success in the borough seats."

Speaker challenge is a failure for Farage

FORMER Ukip leader Nigel Farage watched his election defeat from a hospital bed following his brush with death in a light aircraft crash.

The 46-year-old Bromley resident suffered two broken ribs, a chipped spine and damage to his sternum in the accident, which took place at an airfield near Brackley, Northants, on Thursday morning.

Mr Farage was therefore unable to attend the count for the Buckingham constituency in which he was standing against House of Commons speaker John Bercow, and instead watched it from his bed at Oxford's John Radcliffe Hospital.

He finished third with 8,410 votes – more than 18,000 less than Mr Bercow and almost 2,000 less than second-placed democracy campaigner John Stevens.

Mr Farage's spokesman, Duncan Barkes, was one of the first on the scene when the aircraft went down.

INJURED: Nigel Farage is recovering

He said: "It wasn't a pleasant experience but luckily both Nigel and the pilot were conscious and breathing.

"The pilot was trapped but was on the phone to the emergency services. Nigel was incredibly shaken, as would anybody who had just been involved in a plane crash would be.

"It was a narrow escape and he's very aware that he's lucky to be alive."

Mr Barkes revealed that Mr Farage was originally due to spend between four and five days in hospital, but that he had made a remarkable recovery and may instead be discharged as early as Saturday.

Ironically, the crash comes just weeks after the release of Mr Farage's autobiography Fighting Bull, which contains a description of an earlier brush with death when the South East MEP was diagnosed with testicular cancer.

'We'll be called to the polls again next year'

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

AS THE nation woke on Friday it was faced with political uncertainty and the prospect of another General Election.

With none of the parties reaching the magic 326 seats needed to secure Government, the country was left with a hung parliament.

Voters must now wait while Gordon Brown plans his next move, and until he does he will remain as Prime Minister, despite the Conservatives securing the largest number of the 650 seats that were up for grabs.

The final count saw the Tories win 306 seats, Labour 258 and the Liberal Democrats 57.

Little difference

One constituency, Thirsk and Malton, is yet to vote following the death of a candidate, but this result will make little difference.

In a statement on Friday, Mr Brown said he would be "willing to see any of the party leaders" to discuss how to proceed with government, and made it clear he would offer the Lib Dems voting reform. Tory leader David Cameron also said he wanted to work with the Lib Dems, and talks began with Nick Clegg on Friday. But until agreements are made, the future is still uncertain.

The last hung parliament was seen in 1974, when the then Tory Prime Minister Edward Heath won more votes across the country, but failed to win the highest number of seats.

After he resigned as leader, the Labour Party took over and ruled as a minority government.

According to David Radlett, lecturer of constitutional law at the University of Kent, people were expecting a simpler conclusion in the 2010 elections.

"The last hung parliament was in 1974 and the one before in 1929 with Stanley Baldwin, who refused to co-operate with the Liberals and another Labour government was formed," he said. "I think people expected a simpler outcome this year. Many don't know about hung parliaments because the last time it happened was so long ago.

"To take over Government, parties must have a complete majority, otherwise there is a hung parliament. In this election, the Conservatives may have the most seats but Gordon Brown is still Prime Minister because the Tories don't have an overall majority."

NO CHOICE: The Queen will not decide who the next Prime Minister should be

Mr Radlett said the next two weeks will be crucial: "Gordon Brown has two choices; the Labour Party either joins up to make a coalition with the Liberal Democrats or he leaves office. These are his choices, but elections are about people making choices, not politicians."

Mr Radlett said the Queen would not have a say on the current situation, despite historical records showing input from the Crown.

"The Queen acts on the advice of her ministers," he said. "But Gordon Brown may seek an audience with the Queen to say he will either carry on or send for David Cameron."

Mr Radlett said if the Lib Dems joined forces with the Tories and Mr Brown refused to resign, they could call for him to be sacked.

"If he refused he would have to face parliament, and as in the case of Stanley Baldwin, there would be a vote of no confidence to see if he would stay or go."

Mr Radlett predicted another general election in the next year.

Green light added to Commons

SUCCESS: Caroline Lucas

THE election of the Green Party's first MP has given candidates renewed hope in Kent despite a disappointing set of results across the county.

Dr Caroline Lucas made history with her victory in the Brighton Pavilion constituency, marking the group's single biggest achievement since its formation in 1973.

But her success was not replicated in Kent, where the party failed to make significant ground, despite fielding candidates in a record 11 constituencies.

Kent co-ordinator Steve Dawe blamed the poor showing on a higher than expected turnout across the county, but said Dr Lucas' victory represented a beacon of hope for the future.

"People are really buzzing about Caroline being elected," he said. "It sends a message that we're capable of getting in Parliament, and I'm sure it will improve our results and lead to increased membership in the future.

"Those who voted Lib Dem and Labour would have probably woken up on Friday wondering what happened, and they may well start to look at us as an alternative now."

Should Labour now seek to form a coalition government with the Lib Dems, it is likely the latter party will ask for a reform of the voting system in return. This would see the current first-past-the-post system replaced with a form of proportional representation.

Mr Dawe said: "I think Caroline's victory will help the party generally because it sends the message that we've been able to win a seat in Parliament despite the rotten electoral system we have. Should this system change, it will hopefully lead to more Green Party candidates following in her footsteps."

Dr Lucas will now have to give up her job as a South East MEP.

Mr Dawe said: "Kent residents should note that they will not be losing a Green Party MEP.

"Under European election rules, [Dr Lucas] will be replaced by the next person on the party list, Cllr Keith Taylor, from Brighton."

GENERAL ELECTION 2010 RESULTS

HOW KENT'S NEW POLITICAL LANDSCAPE LOOKS

1 ASHFORD

TURNOUT: 67.9%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Campkin, Steve (Green)	1,014	1.8	-1.6
Clark, Chris (Lab)	9,204	16.7	-9.7
Elenor, Jeff (Ukip)	2,508	4.5	+1.4
GREEN, DAMIAN (CON)	**29,878**	**54.1**	**+2.7**
Took, Chris (Lib Dem)	12,581	22.8	+7.2

MAJORITY: 31.3%

2 BECKENHAM

TURNOUT: 72%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Brolly, Owen (Ukip)	1,551	3.3	+0.4
Eastgate, Dan (English Democrats)	223	0.5	+0.5
Egan, Damien (Lab)	6,893	14.5	-4.9
Garrett, Ann (Green)	608	1.3	+1.3
Jenkins, Steve (Lib Dem)	9,813	20.6	+4.5
STEWART, BOB (CON)	**27,597**	**57.9**	**-1.8**
Tonks, Roger (BNP)	1,001	2.1	+2.1

MAJORITY: 37.3%

3 BEXLEYHEATH & CRAYFORD

TURNOUT: 66.4%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Dawber, Howard (Lab)	11,450	26.5	-7.7
Dunford, John (Ukip)	1,557	3.6	+0.4
EVENNETT, DAVID (CON)	**21,794**	**50.5**	**+3.9**
Griffiths, John (English Democrats)	466	1.1	+1.1
James, Stephen (BNP)	2,042	4.7	+1.8
Ross, Adrian (Green)	371	0.9	+0.9
Scott-Daniels, Karelia (Lib Dem)	5,502	12.7	-0.4

MAJORITY: 24%

4 BROMLEY & CHISLEHURST

TURNOUT: 67.3%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Cheeseman, Jon (English Democrats)	376	0.9	+0.9
Jenner, Emmett (Ukip)	1,451	3.3	+0.1
Kirby, Chris (Lab)	7,295	16.6	-7.9
NEILL, BOB (CON)	**23,569**	**53.5**	**+8.5**
Robertson, Roisin (Green)	607	1.4	-2.3
Savage, Rowena (BNP)	1,070	2.4	+2.4
Webber, Sam (Lib Dem)	9,669	22.0	-1.8

MAJORITY: 31.6%

5 CANTERBURY

TURNOUT: 66.5%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Belsey, Anne (Money Reform Party)	173	0.4	+0.4
BRAZIER, JULIAN (CON)	**22,050**	**44.8**	**+0.3**
Farmer, Howard (Ukip)	1,907	3.9	+1.9
Meaden, Geoff (Green)	1,137	2.3	-1.0
Samuel, Jean (Lab)	7,940	16.1	-12.0
Voizey, Guy (Lib Dem)	16,002	32.5	+11.1

MAJORITY: 12.3%

6 CHATHAM & AYLESFORD

TURNOUT: 61.6%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Arthur, Dave (Green)	396	0.9	+0.9
CROUCH, TRACEY (CON)	**20,230**	**46.2**	**+9.4**
McCarthy-Stewart, Colin (BNP)	1,365	3.1	+3.1
McClintock, John (Lib Dem)	5,832	13.3	-0.2
Newton, Steve (Ukip)	1,314	3.0	+0.0
Shaw, Jonathan (Lab)	14,161	32.3	-12.7
Smith, Maureen (Christian Party)	109	0.2	+0.2
Varham, Sean (English Democrats)	400	0.9	-0.8

MAJORITY: 13.9%

7 DARTFORD

TURNOUT: 65.7%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Adams, John (Lab)	13,800	27.6	-15.5
Crockford, John (Fancy Dress Party)	207	0.4	+0.4
JOHNSON, GARETH (CON)	**24,428**	**48.8**	**+7.6**
Palmer, Richard (Ukip)	1,842	3.7	+0.7
Rogers, Gary (English Democrats)	2,178	4.3	+4.3
Tindame, Stephane (Ind)	264	0.5	+0.5
Willis, James (Lib Dem)	7,361	14.7	+4.6

MAJORITY: 21.2%

8 DOVER

TURNOUT: 70.1%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Brigden, John (Lib Dem)	7,962	15.8	+0.0
Clark, David (Christian People's Alliance)	200	0.4	+0.4
Dee-Lisle, George (Ind)	82	0.2	+0.2
ELPHICKE, CHARLIE (CON)	**22,174**	**44.0**	**+9.1**
Matcham, Vic (Ukip)	1,747	3.5	+0.8
Prosser, Gwyn (Lab)	16,900	33.5	-11.8
Walters, Michael (English Democrats)	216	0.4	+0.4
Whiting, Dennis (BNP)	1,104	2.2	+2.2

MAJORITY: 10.5%

9 ELTHAM

TURNOUT: 67%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Adams, Ray (Ukip)	1,011	2.4	-0.4
EFFORD, CLIVE (LAB)	**17,416**	**41.5**	**-0.7**
Gold, David (Con)	15,753	37.5	+2.9
Graham, Andrew (Ind)	104	0.2	+0.2
Hayles, Arthur (Green)	419	1.0	+1.0
Tibby, Mike (English Democrats)	217	0.5	+0.5
Toole, Steven (Lib Dem)	5,299	12.6	-4.7
Woods, Roberta (BNP)	1,745	4.2	+1.6

MAJORITY: 4%

10 ERITH & THAMESMEAD

TURNOUT: 60.8%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Akinoshun, Abbey (Ind)	438	1.0	+1.0
Bloom, Colin (Con)	13,365	31.5	+5.0
Cordle, Sid (Christian People's Alliance)	379	0.9	+0.9
Cunliffe, Alexander (Lib Dem)	5,116	12.0	-0.8
PEARCE, TERESA (LAB)	**19,068**	**44.9**	**-7.7**
Perrin, Pamela (Ukip)	1,139	2.7	-1.1
Powley, Marek (Green)	322	0.8	+0.8
Saunders, Kevin (BNP)	2,184	5.1	+0.9
Williams, Laurence (English Democrats)	465	1.1	+1.1

MAJORITY: 13.4%

11 FAVERSHAM & MID KENT

TURNOUT: 67.8%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Kemp Graham (National Front)	542	1.2	+1.2
Knorm, Hairy (Monster Raving Loony)	398	0.9	-0.6
Larkins, Sarah (Ukip)	1,722	3.7	+1.0
Naghi David (Lib Dem)	9,162	19.6	+2.9
Rehal, Ashok (Lab)	7,748	16.6	-12.5
ROBERTSON, HUGH (CON)	**26,250**	**56.2**	**+6.1**
Valentine, Tim (Green)	890	1.9	+1.9

MAJORITY: 36.6%

12 FOLKESTONE & HYTHE

TURNOUT: 67.7%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Beaumont, Lynne (Lib Dem)	15,987	30.3	+0.7
COLLINS, DAMIAN (CON)	**26,109**	**49.4**	**-4.5**
Kemp, Penny (Green)	637	1.2	-0.3
McKenna, Frank (Ukip)	2,439	4.6	+3.3
Plumstead, David (Ind)	247	0.5	+0.5
Williams, Harry (BNP)	1,662	3.1	+3.1
Worsley, Donald (Lab)	5,719	10.8	-1.8

MAJORITY: 19.2%

13 GILLINGHAM & RAINHAM

TURNOUT: 66%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Bryan, Gordon (Ind)	141	0.3	+0.3
CHISHTI, REHMAN (CON)	**21,624**	**46.2**	**+5.5**
Clark, Paul (Lab)	12,944	27.7	-13.1
Lacey, Dean (English Democrats)	464	1.0	+1.0
Marchant, Trish (Green)	356	0.8	+0.8
Meegan, George (Ind)	109	0.2	+0.2
Oakley, Bob (Ukip)	1,515	3.2	+0.6
Ravenscroft, Brian (BNP)	1,149	2.5	+2.5
Stamp, Andrew (Lib Dem)	8,484	18.1	+2.8

MAJORITY: 18.6%

14 GRAVESHAM

TURNOUT: 67.4%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Arrowsmith, Anna (Lib Dem)	6,293	13.3	+2.6
Clark, Geoffrey (Ukip)	2,265	4.8	+2.9
Crawford, Richard (Green)	675	1.4	+1.4
Dartnell, Alice Sakura (Ind)	465	1.0	+1.0
HOLLOWAY, ADAM (CON)	**22,956**	**48.5**	**+4.8**
Smith, Kathryn (Lab)	13,644	28.8	-13.4
Uncles, Steven (English Democrats)	1,005	2.1	+2.1

MAJORITY: 19.7%

15 GREENWICH & WOOLWICH

TURNOUT: 62.9%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Adeleye, Edward (Christian Party)	443	1.1	+1.1
Alingham, Tammy (Ind)	65	0.2	+0.2
Drury, Spencer (Con)	10,109	24.5	+7.0
Hewett, Andy (Green)	1,054	2.6	-1.9
Kasab, Onay (Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition)	267	0.6	+0.6
Lee, Joseph (Lib Dem)	7,498	18.2	-1.5
RAYNSFORD, NICK (LAB)	**20,262**	**49.2**	**-3.3**
Rustem, Lawrence (BNP)	1,151	2.8	+2.8
Wresniwiro,Topo (English Democrats)	339	0.8	-2.6

MAJORITY: 24.7%

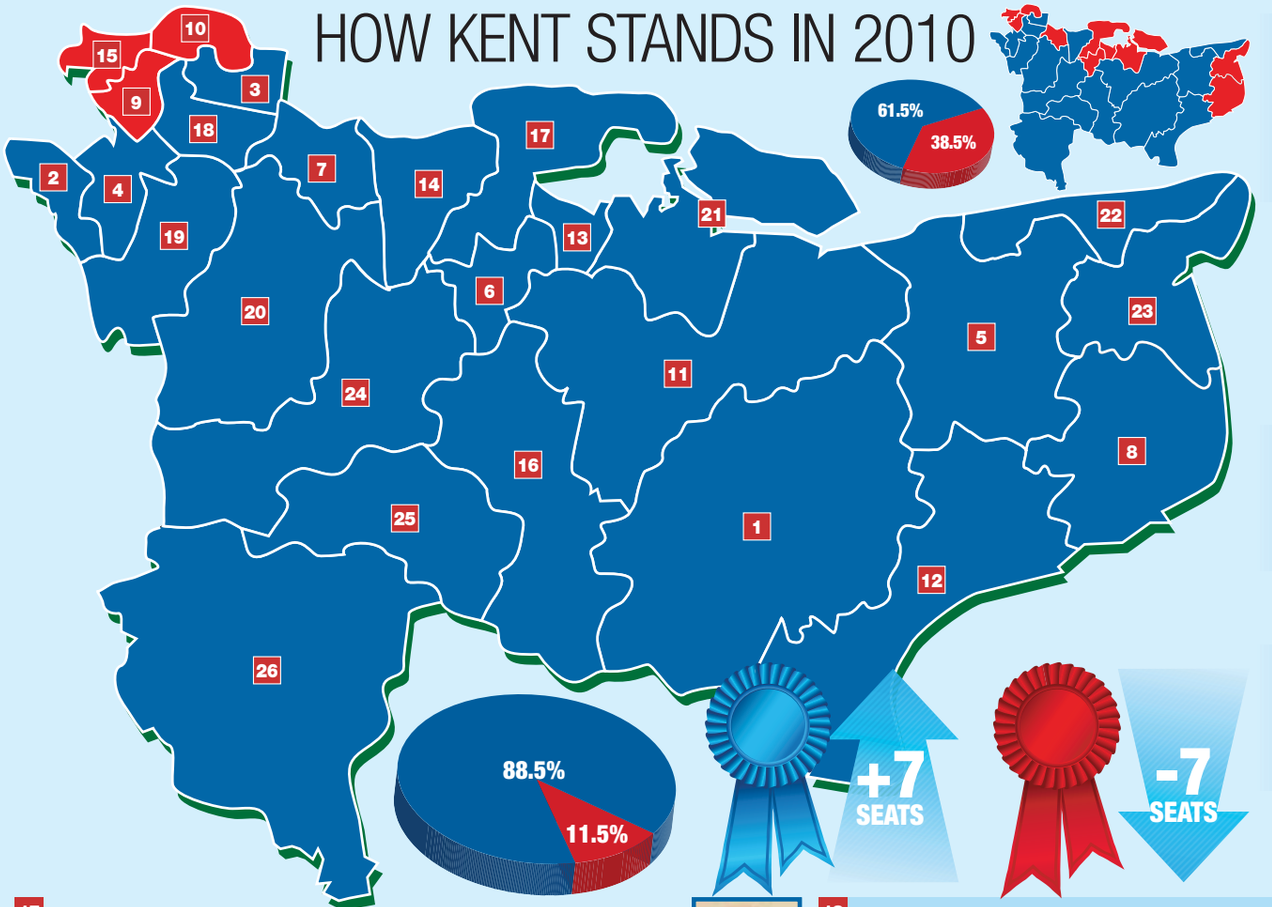
16 MAIDSTONE & THE WEALD

TURNOUT: 68.9%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Butler, Gary (National Front)	643	1.3	+1.3
Carroll, Peter (Lib Dem)	17,602	36.0	+13.2
GRANT, HELEN (CON)	**23,491**	**48.0**	**-3.8**
Jeffery, Stuart (Green)	655	1.3	+1.3
Kendall, Gareth (Ukip)	1,637	3.3	+0.3
Seeruthun, Rav (Lab)	4,769	9.7	-12.6
Simmonds, Heidi (Christian Party)	131	0.3	+0.3

MAJORITY: 12%

HOW KENT STANDS IN 2010



■ KENT is now a Labour-free zone after a total Conservative bluewash on Thursday. The only Labour seats left are in the Kentish London constituencies of Eltham, Erith and Thamesmead, and Greenwich and Woolwich. And since last year's elections, there are also only two Labour councillors sitting on Kent County Council.

■ CLEGGMANIA left Kent voters unmoved, with the party failing to win a single seat. Peter Carroll, who was predicted to pick up support in Maidstone and the Weald because of his popular Gurkha rights campaign, was still nearly 6,000 votes behind Tory winner Helen Grant. Female porn film director Anna Arrowsmith only polled 13.3 per cent of the vote for the Lib Dems in Gravesham.

■ THE highest percentage majority was won by Bob Stewart, the Conservative MP for Beckenham at 37.3 per cent. While he managed to poll 57.9 per cent of the votes cast, his percentage of the vote was down by 1.8 per cent on 2005.

■ THE MP with the smallest percentage majority is Labour's Clive Efford in Eltham, with four per cent.

■ THE MP with the largest percentage of votes cast in a constituency is the Tory Jo Johnson in Orpington with 59.7 per cent. The brother of London mayor Boris Johnson. The seat also saw Kent's highest relative turnout, at 72.2 per cent.

■ THE seat with the lowest turnout was Erith and Thamesmead, at 60.8 per cent. It was held for Labour by Teresa Pearce.

17

ROCHESTER & STROOD

TURNOUT: 64.9%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Juby, Geoffrey (Lib Dem)	7,800	16.3	+3.9
Marchant, Simon (Green)	734	1.5	+1.5
Murray, Teresa (Lab)	13,651	28.5	-13.1
RECKLESS, MARK (CON)	**23,604**	**49.2**	**+6.6**
Sands, Ron (English Democrats)	2,182	4.5	+4.5

MAJORITY: 20.7%

18

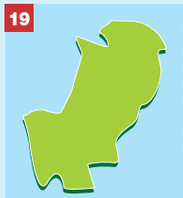
OLD BEXLEY & SIDCUP

TURNOUT: 69.3%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Borrowman, Duncan (Lib Dem)	6,996	15.4	+1.5
BROKENSHIRE, JAMES (CON)	**24,625**	**54.1**	**+4.1**
Brooks, John (BNP)	2,132	4.7	+1.8
Cheeseman, Elaine (English Democrats)	520	1.1	+1.1
Coburn, David (Ukip)	1,532	3.4	-1.2
Dynamite, Napoleon (Monster Raving Loony)	155	0.3	+0.3
Everitt, Rick (Lab)	8,768	19.3	-8.7
Hemming-Clark, John (Save Queen Mary's Hospital)	393	0.9	+0.9
Rooks, John (Green)	371	0.8	+0.8

MAJORITY: 34.9%

19



ORPINGTON

TURNOUT: 72.2%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Culnane, Tess (BNP)	1,241	2.5	+2.5
Galloway, Tamara (Green)	511	1.0	+1.0
Greenhough, Mick (Ukip)	1,360	2.8	+0.4
JOHNSON, JOSEPH (CON)	**29,200**	**59.7**	**+8.5**
McBride, David (Lib Dem)	12,000	24.5	-15.9
Morgan, Stephen (Lab)	4,400	9.0	+3.0
Snape, Chris (English Democrats)	199	0.4	+0.4

MAJORITY: 35.2%

20

SEVENOAKS

TURNOUT: 71%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Bullion, Alan (Lib Dem)	10,561	21.4	-0.8
Ellis, Mark (Ind)	258	0.5	+0.5
FALLON, MICHAEL (CON)	**28,076**	**56.8**	**+5.5**
Golding, Paul (BNP)	1,384	2.8	+2.8
Heath, Christopher (Ukip)	1,782	3.6	+0.6
Siddorn, Gareth (Lab)	6,541	13.2	-8.0
Uncles, Louise (English Democrats)	806	1.6	+0.0

MAJORITY: 35.4%

21

SITTINGBOURNE & SHEPPEY

TURNOUT: 64.5%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Cassidy, David (Ind)	158	0.3	+0.3
Davison, Ian (Ukip)	2,610	5.4	+3.1
Harrison, Angela (Lab)	11,930	24.6	-17.1
HENDERSON, GORDON (CON)	**24,313**	**50.0**	**+8.3**
Nevols, Keith (Lib Dem)	7,943	16.4	+3.6
Tames, Lawrence (BNP)	1,305	2.7	+2.7
Young, Mad Mike (Monster Raving Loony)	319	0.7	+0.7

MAJORITY: 25.5%

22

THANET NORTH

TURNOUT: 63.2%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Britton, Michael (Lab)	9,298	21.5	-11.1
GALE, ROGER (CON)	**22,826**	**52.7**	**+4.7**
Murphy, Laura (Lib Dem)	8,400	19.4	+3.8
Parker, Rosamund (Ukip)	2,819	6.5	+2.6

MAJORITY: 31.2%

23

THANET SOUTH

TURNOUT: 65.3%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Bucklitsch, Peter (Lib Dem)	6,935	15.1	+2.9
Ladyman, Stephen (Lab)	14,426	31.4	-8.1
SANDYS, LAURA (CON)	**22,043**	**48.0**	**+6.8**
Shonk, Trevor (Ukip)	2,529	5.5	+0.7

MAJORITY: 16.6%

24

TONBRIDGE & MALLING

TURNOUT: 71.5%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Dawe, Steve (Green)	764	1.5	+1.5
Easter, Mike (National Front)	505	1.0	+1.0
Griffiths, Daniel (Lab)	6,476	12.6	-11.2
Rogers, Lisa (English Democrats)	390	0.8	+0.8
Simpson, Liz (Lib Dem)	11,545	22.5	+3.0
STANLEY, JOHN (CON)	**29,723**	**57.9**	**+5.1**
Waller, David (Ukip)	1,911	3.7	-0.2

MAJORITY: 35.4%

25

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

TURNOUT: 69.8%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Bradbury, Farel (Ind)	172	0.3	+0.3
CLARK, GREG (CON)	**28,302**	**56.2**	**+5.5**
Dawe, Hazel (Green	914	1.8	+1.8
Hallas, David (Lib Dem)	12,726	25.3	+0.0
Heather, Gary (Lab)	5,448	10.8	-9.6
McBride, Andrew (BNP)	704	1.4	+1.4
Webb, Victor (Ukip)	2,054	4.1	+0.6

MAJORITY: 31%

26

WEALDEN

TURNOUT: 71.8%

NAME	VOTES	% VOTES	+/-
Blackmore, Lorna (Lab)	5,266	9.6	-7.1
Bowers, Chris (Lib Dem)	13,911	25.3	+0.6
Docker, Dan (Ukip)	3,319	6.0	+2.2
HENDRY, CHARLES (CON)	**31,090**	**56.6**	**+6.1**
Jonas, David (Green)	1,383	2.5	-1.8

MAJORITY: 31.3%

GENERAL ELECTION MAY 6, 2010 Round-up of the action from a

Tories close in on century in charge of city

Canterbury

AS EXPECTED Julian Brazier once again took the Canterbury seat, this time with 22,050 votes, meaning it has remained Conservative for nearly 100 years.

Mr Brazier came to the election count with his wife and two sons in tow, and spent most of the night glued to the hall's television to find out the national result.

His modest winning speech was briefly marred by a man belonging to a local socialist group known for disrupting council meetings. But after shouting a few anti-capitalist slogans he was forcibly removed from the hall.

The big surprise of the night was between the remaining candidates.

The Liberal Democrats came second with 16,002 votes – a massive increase of nearly 6,000 votes compared to last year.

Labour dropped nearly 5,000 votes compared with last year to come in third.

Guy Voizey, the Liberal Democrat candidate, said the change in fortunes was due to a hard but fun campaign which had kept local issues to the fore.

Labour candidate Jean Samuel blamed the tactical voting for a drop in votes and election pamphlets published by the Liberal Democrats in recent days stating Labour was out of the race in the area, a tactic she said had let the Tories in.

Another surprise was a marked increase in votes for the UKIP candidate, who more than doubled his share of the vote to finish fourth ahead of the Green party.

LOTS TO CHEER: Another Labour seat falls as Conservative Charlie Elphicke ousts long-time Dover and Deal MP Gwyn Prosser (inset)

Elphicke beats Prosser for 'jewel in the crown'

Dover and Deal

CONSERVATIVE Charlie Elphicke is the new MP for "the jewel in the crown of England" but says the hard work starts now.

He took the Dover and Deal seat from Labour's Gwyn Prosser with a 5,274-vote majority.

Mr Elphicke said after his election that he already felt the "weight of responsibility" on his shoulders after his victory.

He said: "I'm amazed, I'm stunned. But there is a real level of responsibility which I now have to deal with.

"I want to make sure we save the port and ensure we have a proper hospital.

"Dover is the gateway to England and could be the jewel in the crown of our nation, but we need more investment and more jobs.

"To be honest, I am stunned – but deeply honoured to represent the people of Dover and Deal."

Mr Elphicke said he wanted to establish east Kent as an important destination for visitors.

"We have to realise how amazing this part of Kent is. We have so much here and we need to make the most of it."

He added that he was looking forward to his time representing the constituency in Westminster.

"Of course I am excited and I shall enjoy myself in due course," he said. "But the hard work starts now. The heavy weight of responsibility is already clear to me."

Mr Elphicke beat Labour candidate Gwyn Prosser into second place, with John Brigden of the Liberal Democrats in third.

Mr Prosser said: "The regeneration of Dover is going ahead and it is important that everyone realises that.

"I really don't want the Conservatives to undermine that."

Green celebrates biggest win

Ashford

ASHFORD'S incumbent MP Damian Green capitalised on the national swing to the Conservatives, along with his local popularity, to win his largest-ever majority.

A high-profile member of the Tory election team, Mr Green has spent much of the time during the campaign in other parts of the country helping to boost the Conservative vote in marginal seats.

He also helped David Cameron prepare for the television leader debates by playing the role of Gordon Brown in rehearsals.

Mr Green's majority never looked in doubt. The real battle in the constituency was to see if the Liberal Democrats could overtake Labour for second place.

Lib Dem candidate Chris Took's energetic campaign meant his party managed to beat Labour for the first time since 1992.

However, he was disappointed not to have reduced the Conservative majority.

Labour candidate Chris Clark described the Lib Dem strong showing as a blip that would be overturned at the next election.

Amongst the minor parties, the UKIP candidate Jeff Elenor did well beating the Green candidate Steven Campkin who was in last place by 1,494 votes.

Speaking after the result, Mr Green said: "I'm delighted the vote has gone up. I'm personally very grateful to the people of Ashford. This reflects the national scene.

"It has been a good day for the Conservatives. It is clear people do not want a Labour Government anymore."

Tearful Grant succeeds Widdy

Maidstone and Weald

TORY victor Helen Grant broke down in tears and hugged her husband after clinching the Maidstone and Weald seat.

An emotional Mrs Grant beat Liberal Democrat rival Peter Carroll by 5,889 votes, despite earlier predictions that the contest would be more closely fought.

The turnout was 69.1 per cent.

Mother-of-two Mrs Grant admitted she had a hard act to follow in replacing popular Tory stalwart Ann Widdecombe, who stepped down after 23 years in Parliament.

"Ann has been a great friend to me and she's an amazing woman," she said.

"I can't wait to step into her shoes and be the MP for this amazing constituency.

"This is emotional for me and I am so thankful to my family and team for their support."

Husband Simon added: "I am so proud of her."

This was the third successive election-night defeat for Mr Carroll, following previous disappointments in 2001 and 2005.

When asked if he was likely to stand again, a weary Mr Carroll said: "At 3am that is not the best question to ask me."

FINAL COUNTDOWN: Votes are counted for the Maidstone and Weald constituency

Sittingbourne and Sheppey

Tories win big at super-marginal

THERE were no photo finishes in the fight for the super-marginal seat of Sittingbourne and Sheppey which saw the Conservatives romp home to victory with a huge 12,383 majority.

Labour's Angela Harrison came in second with a disappointing 11,930 votes down from 17,051 in 2005, in the seat vacated by Derek Wyatt.

However, the Sheerness councillor vowed to stand again at the next election.

Even competing Lib Dem and Ukip candidates were predicting a landslide win for Gordon Henderson as early as 12.30am.

The veteran campaigner did not disappoint, polling just under 50 per cent of the vote and taking 24,313 of the 48,671 votes cast.

In his acceptance speech the ex-Woolies employee promised to put the community ahead of party politics.

Liberal Democrat, Keith Nevols took a respectable 7,943 votes while UKIP's Ian Davison polled 2,610.

ELECTION NIGHT REPORTING TEAM: James Alexandre • Nick Ames • Jenny Armstrong • Tom Betts • Ed Hill • Jill Hurst • Simon Robinson • Anna White

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dramatic night which saw the Conservative Party wipe out Labour in the county

Collins steps into Howard's shoes

Folkestone and Hythe

CONSERVATIVE Damian Collins came through with a healthy majority to confirm his status as the successor to Michael Howard in Folkestone and Hythe.

The count at the Leas Cliff Hall saw nearest challenger Lynne Beaumont of the Lib Dems reduce the Tory advantage from last time to 10,122, but it was not enough to claim victory.

There were cheers and applause as Mr Collins thanked his supporters and said he intended to get to work straight away:

"It's a fantastic honour to be elected as the new Member of Parliament.

"I will give it all my energy and passion to be a new champion in Parliament for everyone in the constituency, whether they voted for me or not.

"Tonight is a night for celebration and rest after a hard campaign. But at the weekend the work starts again – I'll be holding my first surgeries on Saturday and intend to get down to work as the new MP straight away.

"I look forward to starting work on the change we need in our community and in our country at Westminster."

In her speech, Ms Beaumont praised her campaign team, whom she said had "worked their socks off" since she was adopted as the party's candidate in January, her voice sounding tearful at the end.

She was followed in the poll by Donald Worsley of Labour, UKIP's Frank McKenna, Harry Williams of the BNP, the Greens' Penny Kemp and Independent David Plumstead.

The total turnout was slightly lower than the 2005 figure at 67.8 per cent, or 52,902 voters.

The Parliamentary seat has been extended to include the Ashford electoral ward of Saxon Shore due to population shifts, adding an extra 4,097 voters to the roll.

Ballot boxes from the 64 polling stations started arriving at about 10pm and more than 300 council staff were involved in the whole process, including counting the votes in the hall.

Former Home Secretary and one-time Conservative leader Michael Howard did not make an appearance at the count due to a prior engagement which he "couldn't break", according to his agent.

Mr Collins will represent the constituency after 27 years of Mr Howard holding the seat.

It was thought that Shepway councillor Ms Beaumont could seize on the national LibDem surge and her association with the successful Gurkha Justice Campaign to make inroads into the Tory lead.

To see this search 'Collins' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

The results are announced at the Folkestone and Shepway constituency, won by Damian Collins of the Conservative Party

Sandys ends Ladyman's Thanet South reign

Thanet South

THE Conservatives have won back the Thanet South seat as Laura Sandys triumphed at the polls on Friday morning.

Ms Sandys crushed her main rival, Labour's Dr Steve Ladyman, who had held the seat since 1997.

Jubilant scenes greeted her victory and Ms Sandys hugged husband Randolph and political mentor Roger Gale, the MP for Thanet North, after the results came through.

She received 22,043 votes to Dr Ladyman's 14,426 – a 7,617 majority.

Speaking after her win, and beaming from ear to ear in a blue jacket, Ms Sandys said: "I feel very, very excited and very privileged.

"It's a combination of feeling very elated on one hand and the responsibilities I have to take on the other.

"I am here to serve the people of Thanet South with dedication, compassion and determination.

"Thanet South needs a sense of vision and determination to follow through."

As the results were announced by returning officer Richard Samuel, the Conservatives in the crowd cheered loudly when they heard how many votes Ms Sandys had received.

Ms Sandys, who lives in Ramsgate, said she was surprised at the size of the majority.

She said: "I would have been surprised at a majority of just two, so it hasn't quite sunk in yet."

The Lib Dems' Peter Bucklitsch came third with 6,935 votes, while UKIP's Trevor Shonk polled 2,529 votes.

VICTORS: Laura Sandys beat Steve Ladyman for Thanet South and Roger Gale comfortably held on to his Thanet North seat again

Dr Ladyman admitted he was "depressed" at the outcome of the campaign.

He said: "I'm feeling a bit depressed, but it's been an honour and a privilege to be the MP for 13 years and I wish I could have carried on, but these things happen.

"It's a democracy and I've been in the Labour Party long enough to know we'll regroup and come back to fight another day."

In her winning speech from the podium, Ms Sandys said she was pleased it had been a clean campaign and paid tribute to her opponents and said she was looking forward to taking her place in Parliament.

She said: "I have had the best team I can dream of and I thank them all for their dedication.

"Dr Ladyman has served the residents of Thanet South meticulously and with dedication.

"I have my greatest gratitude to the voters and I will serve all the people of South Thanet with compassion and total devotion but also with determination."

Thanet North

Gale victory no surprise

ROGER Gale has once again been elected as the MP for Thanet North.

As uncertainty reigned in the country at large, this safe seat remained in Mr Gale's hands.

The Conservative has been returned as the Member of Parliament for the seventh successive time and romped home past the finish line.

His 22,826 votes dwarfed that of his closest challenger, Labour's Michael Britton, who garnered 9,298 votes.

He said: "I'm very pleased indeed. This is the culmination of a lot of hard work from a lot of people.

"I never take anything for granted. Any MP who starts taking the people he represents for granted faces the fast road to the exit door.

"I could not have done this without my wife Suzy.

"We need to remember that once the election is over, I am not the Conservative Member of Parliament for North Thanet, I am the Member of Parliament and I have a duty to represent all the people, not just some of them.

"I have established a way of working that people appear to be comfortable with. There is a huge amount of work to be done, but I look forward to it."

Third place went to Laura Murphy, the Liberal Democrat candidate, who received 8,400 votes, while Rosamund Parker of UKIP received 2,819.

There were 83 rejected ballot papers and turnout for the constituency was 63.4 per cent.

Mr Gale said: "I want to thank my team for their work and deep loyal support. We could not have done it without you."

He said he would continue to deliver results for the people of Thanet North.

Crouch joy as she ousts Shaw

Chatham and Aylesford

NEW Chatham and Aylesford MP Tracey Crouch has spoken of her joy in winning her place in Parliament.

The 35-year-old, who took the seat from Labour's Jonathan Shaw, said: "I would like to take the opportunity to thank the other candidates for the way in which they have conducted the election campaign.

"It has been done without personal insult or rancour and at a time when the public's confidence in politicians is so low I think we can all be proud of the campaigns we have run here in Chatham and Aylesford.

"May I also thank Jonathan Shaw for all the work he has done on behalf of the constituency for the past 13 years.

"I shall do my best to serve every part of the constituency and every person as well as Jonathan has and I promise to do my best to serve them as well as he has.

"No candidate can win a parliamentary election without a strong campaign from the local and national party.

"David Cameron has fought an excellent campaign and we are seeing the results of that.

"Here, locally, the team has been fantastic, not just during this election but since I was selected in 2006.

"Finally, and most importantly, I would like to thank the people of Chatham and Aylesford for putting their trust in me.

"Tomorrow the hard work begins and I promise that together with my party I will do everything in my power to help bring the changes that we need."

Ditch 'EU racket'

Rochester and Strood

NEW Rochester and Strood MP Mark Reckless has vowed to fight for a referendum on Britain's inclusion in the European Union.

The Medway Tory councillor, who won the seat vacated by retiring MP Bob Marshall-Andrews, made the promise during his victory speech.

He said: "Tonight Rochester and Strood has voted for change. We're fed up of being lied to, taken for granted, patronised, ignored.

"We know that a government, like all of us, has to live within its means. We want public services that serve the public.

"We want schools that answer to parents. We want police that answer to local residents. Above all, we want MPs who answer to their constituents.

"We want to restore our democracy, to shift power from the state to the citizen, from Whitehall to local government and from quangos to elected representatives.

"We want an independent Britain with its own taxes, its own borders and its own laws. We want trade and friendship with our allies in Europe.

"But we don't want this EU racket. We are a free people and a free nation and we should chart our own path."

Chishti vows to work round clock for constituents

Gillingham and Rainham

NEW Gillingham and Rainham MP Rehman Chishti has vowed to work day and night for his consituents.

The Medway Conservative councillor, who beat Labour's Paul Clark, said: "I thank the other candidates for putting up a strong fight.

"It's in the interest of democracy that we have a strong fight in terms of ideas, policies and vision. And today the great people of Gillingham and Rainham have believed in the Conservative Party and David Cameron as providing the policies, ideas and leadership to improve their quality of life.

"I thank the people of Gillingham and Rainham for placing their trust in me. I promise them I will work day and night to do everything I can to ensure they get the strongest voice and representation in Parliament."

KOS media COMMENT

Blue is the colour

HAD there been any doubt before, there can be none now that the people of Kent want a Conservative government.

Already a Tory-dominated county, it is now a Labour no-go area, with its political map now bereft of any other colour but blue.

David Cameron's message of change clearly struck a chord with Kent voters, the majority of whom have had enough of a Labour government led by Gordon Brown.

Yet despite many other regions throughout the country sharing the desire for a Tory revolution, it is still far from clear who will be in power in the weeks and months to come.

There has not been a hung Parliament for almost 40 years, so it will be fascinating to see if the three main parties have learned any of the lessons from the past.

Ex-Tory Prime Minister Edward Heath tried to remain in power in 1974 but ended up resigning from office. Only time will tell if the same fate will befall Mr Brown.

Whatever happens, the most exciting election in years may well continue with the very real possibility of a return to the polls later this year.

It's just not cricket

THE election campaign may have got dirty at times, but at least there was no eye-gouging or shirt-pulling involved.

According to a new survey by the Cricket Foundation, cheating to in school sports games is on the rise – with fighting and swearing now commonplace.

Such behaviour would certainly not have been tolerated during the televised leaders' debates, but the viewing figures would have no doubt gone through the roof if it had.

OPINION: Platform for a new world

Teaching in the developing world made an active global citizen out of Chloe Boulton, but there's more work to do

AS THE bus reluctantly hauled itself away from the school, it became clear this was the last time I would see the children.

I put my head out of the window to see my class running through the rising dust.

Returning their frantic waves, I began to wonder: 'Had my 10 weeks of teaching made any difference to their quality of life?'

I'd been working as a volunteer teacher at a state primary in Rajasthan. As one of 40 volunteers, it was an opportunity to live and work in one of India's poorest communities.

We were sent out by Platform2, a government scheme designed to give less advantaged 18 to 25-year-olds the opportunity to volunteer in a developing country.

From early 2008 until the end of this year, Platform2 will have offered roughly 2,000 young adults the chance to work on one of 12 projects across Ghana, India, Kenya, Nepal, Peru and South Africa.

With a budget of £10 million, it is funded by the Department for International Development and implemented by Christian Aid.

So, why has the department invested such a large amount in 18 to 25-year-olds? Surely it could be spent on food, or medicine? And what difference can young people actually make?

Platform2 has two main objectives: the obvious one is to directly involve young people with development projects – building schools, teaching English, and promoting health and sanitation.

The second is to stimulate young people upon their return to the UK so they can become active global citizens. To be fully involved in grassroots development work is a rare and influential experience.

Reflecting on my 10 weeks at Soron Ki Dhani school, I know I made a difference. It was extremely challenging, with language barriers and hostility, but most of all from being an outsider. But compare my first and last days at the school, and a world of difference presents itself.

Rather than giggling "gori, gori" (a derogatory term for white people), the children would shout "banana", "moustache" and "frog" with vigour.

Their progress was immeasurable. They could have basic conversations in English and write their names. But, most rewardingly, they would sit with me at lunchtimes and ask me to play games with them.

We became cultural friends, and it's that bond that will always encourage me to make others aware of the needs of people in the developing world.

As a Platform2 returnee, I've been inundated by invitations from Christian Aid officers to attend campaigns and events.

Past volunteers have participated in many influential projects: performing the Poverty Monologues at the Edinburgh Festival; campaigning at The Wave (prior to climate talks in Copenhagen); even interviewing Bob Geldof. There's little scope for apathy among Platform2 volunteers.

The causes of poverty are debt, lack of education, poor healthcare and inadequate social infrastructure. These cannot be alleviated by financial aid and the work of groups such as Christian Aid and Oxfam alone.

In 2000, the richest countries agreed to halve poverty by creating eight Millennium development goals. But is this enough?

The goals were to be achieved by 2015 and, as it stands, will not be accomplished. In fact, the Millennium Development Goals Report of 2009 documents that: "Worldwide, the number of people living in extreme poverty in 2009 was expected to be 55-90 million higher than anticipated."

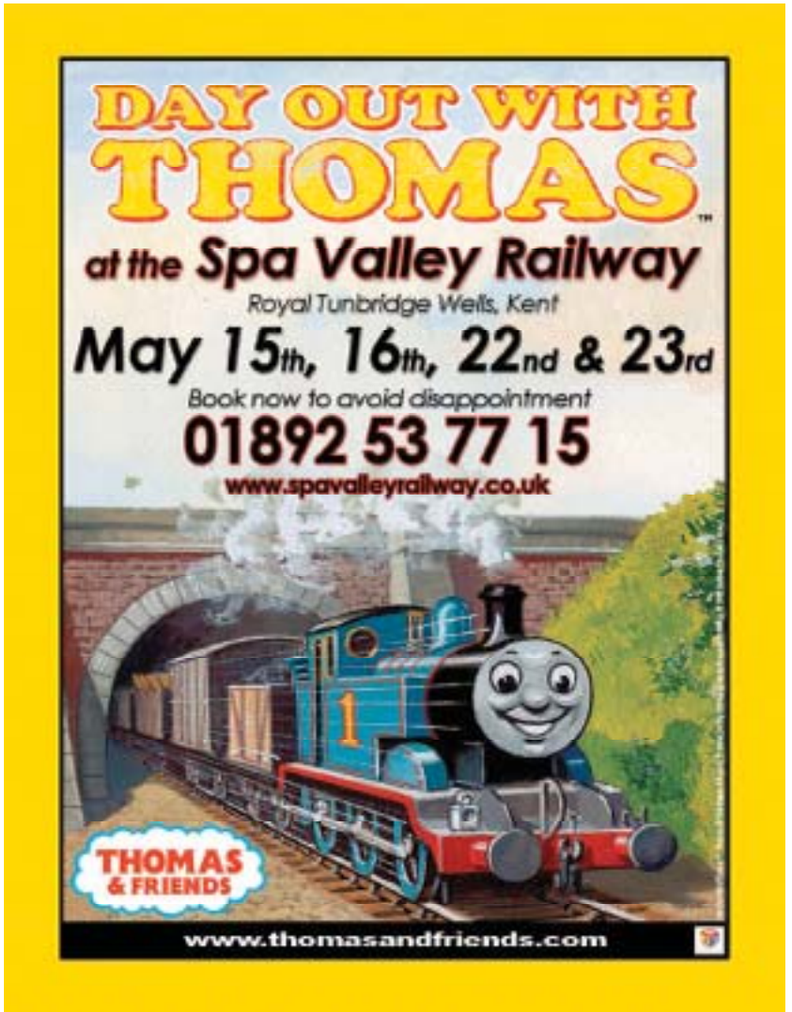
It's almost certain that in the absence of pressure from active citizenship, governments in the developed world will not fulfil the goals.

The prevalence of extreme poverty is daunting. But it is also immoral. In a world where excessive consumption is the lifestyle of many, extreme deprivation and need is unjustifiable.

Even in the context of a global recession, it is inhuman to commit only 0.3 per cent of GDP to foreign aid. I would like to close with a quote from Edmund Burke, one I find more pertinent than ever: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

If anyone is interested in the work of Platform2, or would like to get involved, visit the website at www.myplatform2.com.

• ***Chloe Boulton is from Deal.***



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Police's pitiful excuses

In last week's story headlined 'Police refuse to reveal how 14 sex offenders vanished', Det Supt Maria Shepherd of the public protection unit obviously thought reporting 14 missing criminals freed from prison on licence was an entirely appropriate opportunity to issue a series of easily regurgitated soundbites to praise Kent Police, rather than address the obvious deficiencies which led to such a serious failure of policing:

"Kent Police closely monitor behaviour and risk posed to the public"; "protecting the people of Kent is out priority"; "we work with our partners to use all the resources available to us in order to best manage violent and sex offenders in Kent, helping to keep our communities safe"; "Kent Police holds public protection at the heart of its business"; "our joint police and probation public protection team operates as a centre of excellence".

Pitiful, isn't it, that she thought the people of Kent would swallow such meaningless drivel? But actually she's right – we do.

Stephen Talbot, Bromley

An ironic set of values

What a sick irony. While a horse refuge could well be forced to close and the horses slaughtered due to lack of money, a giant sculpture of a horse – of no value whatsoever – will be stuck in a field and only the artist will benefit from the £2 million it will cost.

Edward Jenkins, Beckenham

Flawed 'free schools'

The Conservatives' plans for so-called 'free schools' leave me feeling rather uneasy because I can't help feeling that other schools will suffer. I agree in principle that parents and communities should have more power and control over their children's education. I can even see how the Tory plans could possibly work in affluent areas, where parents perhaps have more time and resources to take such a massive step.

But what about more deprived areas, particularly in the centre of cities, where schools and the children they teach need the most support from the state? Will there be enough support for parents and communities in these areas to set up their own schools?

Or will schools in these areas just be left under the control of local authorities and suffer from budget cuts as money is diverted to help the 'free schools'?

The philosophy behind the idea seems to make sense, but I can't help thinking it will make our already fractured state education system worse rather than better, especially where it is already failing.

Miriam Sandalwood, Tunbridge Wells

Adrift on culture of failure

And so the election is over. Yet another looms on the horizon within six to 12 months as the parties have already begun fundraising for a second election.

If MPs achieve very little – and certainly 4,000 new laws in the last decade suggests only a legislation machine – then how best to improve Kent as our pensioner councillors at worst crumble into history, or at best live there?

Most of the issues don't require legislation: better local government, improved schools performance and better NHS care. Or the issues lie outside Parliament and with local government itself – air and noise pollution, or potholes in roads.

A simple step forward would be for every local authority – as already required – to publish all staffing levels, salaries, contracts and so on.

You wouldn't need a Churchill, only a moderately capable accountant, to take a view of the overstaffing, overpay and tax perks. Perhaps of more concern is the failure of MPs and councillors to scrutinise these issues. Thanet council, for example, has never provided staff salaries to councillors for council meetings and review.

And the new CEO at KCC is paid c£200k despite pledges that such costs would be reduced. Haven't we arrived at a system of Buggins' turn, apathy and failure within the political and civil service class, creating a cosy club of failure?

If not, then why is council tax the only tax to automatically increase above inflation each year?

Two elections in less than a year suggests the nation is drifting, while the performance of councillors and civil servants suggests Kent is doing the same.

Tim Garbutt, Ramsgate

Let the children play

Belinda Collins' assertion that her Bee for Beauty parties for four to 15-year-olds do not sexually objectify young girls because they "enhance their natural beauty" sounds distinctly dubious.

Surely a child's untainted natural beauty doesn't require artificial enhancement?

The application of nail varnish, eye make-up and lipstick on children as young as four (which Ms Collins' parties arrange) are sanctioned mainly for the benefit of parents (who live vicariously through their offspring), rather than their bemused toddlers.

Pre-pubescent girls deserve to have their innocence preserved or as long as possible.

Cosmetics should really only be applied to females above the age of 15 as makeovers are intended to intensify a woman's sensuality.

The very purpose of a lady using make-up is so that a gentleman is more inclined to notice them.

Little girls want to be concentrating on simple, harmless pursuits, not appearing as though they are trying to attract the opposite sex. Beauty treatments should be synonymous with womanhood and remain entirely separate from girls whose existences are best kept free from the many complications that arise from such unhealthy adult preoccupations and facial appearance and body image.

Clive Wilkins-Oppler, Canterbury

Sold down the river

How much longer are we going to let the Brussels machine run this country?

Now they are telling us we should pay the benefits of terror suspects' relatives when they should not even be in this country.

It's time to copy France and just implement those dictates that suit us.

Better still, get out of the EU, because we are financing the waste of our own money.

No political party was given the right to sell us down the river and the party that gives us back our country will be remembered for the right reasons in history.

RE Tucker, Sheerness

Letters continued on page 28

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400
For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

LUNN
Thomas would like to announce the birth of his Sister Florence Eileen on 25th April 2010 at Pembury Hospital Pembury.

BROSTER
Henry John Broster born on the 22nd April 2010 weighing 9lb. Born to proud parents Claire and Mark, and big sister Jessica. A Welcomed addition to the family for Grandparents John and Monica, Ron and Helen.

REUTHER
Colleen Gorham and James Reuther of Hythe Kent celebrate the birth of their daughter Amelia Kentley Dean Reuther on 12th April 2010, weighing 5lbs 3oz.

DOWLING
To Philip and Emma of Boughton under Blean, a beautiful second daughter, Jennifer May Joyce Dowling born on 19th April 2010. A new sister for Imogen.

MILES
George Hendrik Miles, born 7th April 2010, weighing 3.8kg, to Hennie and Madeleine Miles.

TURPIN
Luke Samuel Turpin born 19th April 2010 to Suzanne and Mel at Darent Valley Hospital weighing 9lbs 11oz. Brother to Natalie and George.

ROBERTS
To James and Joanne of Dover a beautiful daughter Lexi-Marie, born on 23 March 2010 at 9.34pm weighing 3lb 15oz.

DEATHS

LANGDALE
Alfred. It is with deep regret that Alfie's family inform you of the death of "Alfie The Kent Walker". Funeral to take place at Charing Crematorium on 11th May 2010. Donations in lieu of flowers to C.L.I.C. All enquiries to Firmager Funeral Services 01797 369277.

JOY
Violet Joy died at The Heart of Kent Hospice on 26th April 2010, aged 92 years. Dearly loved Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Donations to The Heart of Kent Hospice, enquiries to Michael Lawrence, King Street, Maidstone.

PHILLIPS
Harold Phillips of Aylesham passed away peacefully on 27th April 2010 aged 80 years. Now reunited with his beloved wife Ruby, eldest son Raymond and grandson Marc. A much loved dad and grandad who will be sadly missed. Forever in our hearts - until we meet again. Love you always, rest in peace.

McGOWAN
John Joseph McGowan died peacefully on 27th April 2010. Funeral service at Vinters Park Crematorium on 10th May 2010 at 1.15pm.

WILES
James William passed away peacefully on 26th April, aged 93 years. Now reunited with his beloved wife Margaret and son Pat. Dearly beloved father to Penny, Marina, Marie, Maureen and Robert. Grandfather and Great Grandfather. Funeral Service to be held at the Church of the Good Shepherd Borough Green at 1pm on 13th May 2010. Enquiry to Sears Funeral Directors, Borough Green.

ATTRILL
Leslie Frank Attrill passed away on the 26th April 2010 aged 89 years. Enquries to Sterrys Funeral Directors Cheriton. Sadly missed by family and friends.

Letters continued from page 27

The new enemy within

I was disturbed by the failure of the Crown Prosecution Service to take action over the Muslim who desecrated the Imperial War Museum, calling for the death and destruction of the British people, including a death threat to Gordon Brown.

Although they are quite happy to prosecute Christians for handing out leaflets or, as happened recently, preaching in the street.

Christianity and the British way of life is seriously under attack by the very people who should be supporting it.

We have forces in this country who wish to replace the British way of life with their own alternative to suit their own agenda.

This can only cause increasing problems in what many people, even politicians, are calling Broken Britain.

Phil Granger, West Malling

Apathy and eruptions

So Phil Granger continues his handwringing and complaining about the state of the world and those who have the temerity to try to do something about it.

Where would we all be if say the trade unionists, suffragettes, human rights and environmental campaigners had all not even got started, thinking it's all a waste of time and effort? A lot worse off, in my view.

He mentions again the early 1970s theory of a new ice age, but the evidence back then just did not stack up and was abandoned. Indeed, the science was pointing the other way – towards global warming. This has mounted ever since and is now seen to be because of our own activities.

The models he mentions are based not just on computer science, but on actual observations from on Earth and in space. These also consist of the physical evidence gathered from studies on plants, animal movements, genetic changes, sea-level changes and also taking ice-cores from the poles which can indicate the environmental conditions on the planet going back hundreds of thousands years.

Tree-ring data can add to this but does not indicate temperatures and may reflect local micro-climates.

Meanwhile, we see directly the evidence for such from TV shows as Simon Reeves' recent Tropic of Cancer series and also Prof Brian Cox's Wonders of the Solar System, mentioned but misunderstood in my view by David Hedges recently, as Prof Cox also accepts the theory of man-made climate change. Further will be shown on Sir David Attenborough's series on the polar regions due next year and he has already said he will address the risks of not tackling global warming.

As for Doug Cheverst's views on green issues, yes, we have to adapt away from the overuse of cars and this will have to mean more and better public transport, including in rural areas, as well as localising food production. Also we will likely need to greatly increase the number of teleworking/conferencing centres that some are already using to avoid commuting.

It will take more investment, but if we get rid of the likes of ID cards, Trident, new nuclear stations – as well as the surveillance state that Ian Taylor rightly warns of – and switch money into the above, we could well achieve it, among other measures.

Finally, there just isn't enough eruptive volcanic activity at present, nor recently, to change the climate overall. However there is one that is 40,000 years overdue on its average 600,000-year cycle. It's the caldera, or super volcano, under Yellowstone Park in the USA and when – not if – that goes up, it'll be disastrous for our so-called global civilisation and will likely change the climate for a lot more than just a few years.

The magma chamber is thought, though noone's certain, to be filling even now. So maybe we should all join Mr Granger, sit back, twiddle our thumbs and not try to find ways to vent it as safely as possible before then.

Ray Duff, Folkestone

Dealing with dyslexia

The week of May 17-23 has been designated Xtraordinary Week. The aim is to raise awareness and focus on the strengths and talents of dyslexic children everywhere.

I have written a free and simple fact sheet on dyslexia which provides information about the condition. Children who have dyslexia can have problems with reading, writing or spelling. It is believed one in 10 children have some form of dyslexia, which is Greek for 'difficulty with words'.

Parents naturally want the best for their children. They know good literacy skills are the building blocks to educational success and a satisfying career. But many parents are in the dark about their child's special educational needs and how best to help them.

If any of readers would like a free copy of the fact sheet, they can write to me at: Dyslexia Simplified Fact Sheet, Appleford School, Shrewton, nr Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP3 4HL.

Alternatively, call 01980 621020; email: secretary@appleford.wilts.sch.uk; or visit www.applefordschool.org

Dr Peter Gardner, chartered educational psychologist

Meat-free with Heather

I am sure many readers will be aware that eating less meat is one of the most effective things anyone can do to reduce their carbon footprint and improve their health.

But the question on many people's lips may be, how do I cook tasty vegetarian meals that all the family will love? I am delighted to be teaming up with animal group Viva! for the Incredible Veggie Cookery Show in London on Tuesday, June 8, where I will be demonstrating just how easy it is to prepare nutritious and affordable meat-free meals.

I'll be cooking popular dishes which have been tested at my VBites restaurant, such as: beefy-style stroganoff; lemongrass-style chicken; sweetcorn and chicken-style chowder; vegan sag paneer; chicken-style creamy nut korma; tom gai soup; sweet potato green Thai curry.

The event, at the Resource Centre, Holloway Road, will also include a talk from Viva! founder and director, Juliet Gellatley, plus free delicious vegan food samples from Redwood Wholefoods and a range of merchandise and campaigns information from Viva! and the Vegetarian and Vegan Foundation.

Doors open at 6.30pm. Book by calling 0117 944 1000 (Monday-Friday, 9am-6pm) or book online at www.viva.org.uk/cookeryshows. I look forward to seeing you there.

Heather Mills, Viva! patron and charity campaigner

We need million books

I am writing to encourage your readers to throw the book at heart disease and support the British Heart Foundation's (BHF) book appeal this month.

By donating unwanted books to their local BHF shop, they will be refilling its shelves while saving lives. The appeal aims to bring in a million books this month and follows a 20 per cent shortfall in donations nationwide throughout the last 12 months, despite BHF shops being busier than ever.

Are you considering buying a new read for your holiday this year and looking to make space on your bookshelf? Have you discovered all you need to know in that latest cook book or sports biography?

With millions of new books sold every day in the UK, you can easily make a difference by donating your old books to BHF shops. Just nine good quality books can raise enough to fund a BHF scientist for one hour – helping the fight against heart disease.

Last year BHF Shops raised more than £20 million, helped by the sale of second-hand items, so think twice before hoarding those dusty books for yet another year. To find your nearest BHF Shop or book bank, call 0844 412 5000 or visit bhf.org.uk/books.

Dame Jacqueline Wilson, author, for the British Heart Foundation

Meningitis on the run

After the excitement of the London Marathon, we would like to ask any fitness-minded readers to consider running for Meningitis UK in this year's Great North Run.

Public entries are now full, but we still have a few places left in our Meningitis Musketeers team for the world's biggest half-marathon, on September 19.

Meningitis UK has a single focus – to find a vaccine to eradicate all forms of meningitis. Tragically, meningitis and meningococcal septicaemia continue to affect thousands of people in the UK every year and kill more children under five than any other infectious disease. Our Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign aims to raise £7 million to fund research into eradicating meningococcal group B, the most common form of meningitis in the UK. This accounts for almost 90 per cent of all cases and there is currently no vaccine.

Everyone who runs for Meningitis UK will be part of the Meningitis Musketeers team – with the motto 'All 4 One and One 4 All' – to highlight the fact that meningitis can kill in under four hours and the importance of our Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign.

Full support will be given and everyone who participates will receive a free running vest or T-shirt, and an information pack including hints and tips on how to prepare.

If you would like to take part, contact me on 0117 302 6191.

Toya Champ, Meningitis UK

Heavy haulage burden

Road transport is often described as the lifeblood of the UK economy, yet political parties large and small had very little to say on the subject during the General Election campaign – did they forget that road users are voters, too?

At this critical time of economic recovery, the future prosperity of the country is more reliant than ever on a strong transport industry. We face high fuel prices as a result of high oil prices, weak sterling and high duty levels – all issues that the new government will have to address.

Labour's manifesto position on fuel duty was regular 'real terms' increases across the board, the only other comment on roads being: "Tackling congestion is a key priority."

In their manifesto, the Conservatives said they would consult on the introduction of a 'fair fuel stabiliser' that would cut duty when oil prices rise, and vice versa, though it was unclear at what level the price would be set; and they would fund new road capacity through tolls.

The only acknowledgement of the haulage industry from the Liberal Democrats was that HGVs would be charged to raise revenue to fund high-speed rail. And the party's plans for re-opening closed rail lines and adding extra tracks would be paid for "by cutting the major roads budget".

Improving the effectiveness of road freight must now be given the political priority it deserves. Without efficient haulage, economic recovery will be delayed.

Geoff Dunning, chief executive, Road Haulage Association

A month of awareness

I would like to thank Marks & Spencer staff and customers for their incredible support in making Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, in March, such a success.

There are 250,000 men living with prostate cancer in the UK, yet it is a disease that is rarely spoken about openly. The Prostate Cancer Charity used its annual awareness month to increase understanding of prostate cancer and highlight the fact that it is often thought of as 'the hidden disease'.

I got into the spirit by doing my bit and posing in my M&S pants to help spread the word and get people talking about prostate cancer for an in-store campaign.

M&S has partnered the charity for the past four years and if there was an Olympic medal for fundraising effort, their staff would win every time.

This year, stores sold a selection of men's underwear, pin badges, pens and trolley tokens and staff took part in a variety of weird and wonderful fundraising activities.

M&S has raised more than £242,000 so far, with money still coming in. More than £35,000 came directly from staff who signed up for feats including wearing pyjamas to work, jumping out of aeroplanes and sitting in baths of jelly. Prostate Cancer Awareness Month exposed all of the unseen aspects of the disease, from the fact that it can be a taboo topic, to hidden support and information needs of men living with the disease, which are often not fully met.

I urge anyone with any concerns about the disease to call the helpline on 0800 074 8383.

Mark Foster, Olympic swimmer

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Skilful victory for young builders

APPRENTICES from Ashford have made the national final of the construction skills competition SkillBuild.

Sonnie Hardy won the plastering category in the South East heat, while Ross Edgell got through after taking first place in the wall and floor tiling category.

The talented duo will join four other apprentices from the South East in the national final, which will be held in Coleg Menai, Wales, between September 8-10.

SkillBuild manager Heather Bliss said: "It's great to see the new generation demonstrate the immense talent we have in this industry."

Visit www.cskills.org/skillbuild for more information.

Adult students get taste for learning

LECTURES celebrating Adult Learners' Week will be held at the University of Kent's Tonbridge Centre later this month.

The one-hour taster sessions will allow prospective students to experience what it is like to study either literature or the history of art, on a part-time basis.

University staff will also be in Tonbridge library between May 17-20 to offer guidance about higher education study.

For more information, visit www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge.

A LECTURER has returned to Kent after training occupational therapists in Australia. Rayya Ghul, from Canterbury Christ Church University, spent six days in Oz where she ran workshops in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney, offering training in solution-focused methods.

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Uni professor lands expert role to big-up small science

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

STUDENTS throughout the UK are being encouraged to take up a little-known yet important science that is taking great strides in Kent.

Professor Frank Pullen heads the mass spectrometry team at the University of Greenwich at Medway, which works to detect and identify minuscule compounds in order to develop new medicines, ensure food safety, catch sports drug-cheats, and more.

A veteran with more than 37 years' experience in the field, Prof Pullen has now been elected for the British Mass Spectrometry Society Lectureship so he can encourage others to follow in his footsteps.

He said: "Mass spectrometry has so many applications in almost every industry you can think of, from petrochemicals through pharmaceuticals to food-processing.

Revolutionary

"It's chemical detective work – identifying the basic elements of molecules and compounds.

"It's a technique that has revolutionised the pharmaceuticals industry. Scientists cannot only analyse the compounds they have produced, but they can detect how a drug is metabolised inside the body.

"It's also proving a powerful tool in detecting counterfeit medicines."

The University of Greenwich at Medway has eight different mass spectrometers to aid research projects and provide technical analysis services to local and regional businesses.

As part of his new role with the society, Prof Pullen will be talking to undergraduate and graduate researchers across the country about the work he has done and the work that could be possible in the future.

He said: "Being awarded the British Mass Spectrometry Society Lectureship is a great honour. I hope to be able to excite students about all the applications this analytical technique can be used for, and hopefully interest them enough for them to consider this scientific area as a possible career for them in the future.

"This is an excellent resource for both the university and the area as a whole. We are determined to establish the University of Greenwich as a centre of excellence for mass spectrometry."

LECTURESHIP: Prof Frank Pullen hopes to bring mass spectrometry to more students

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Jobs for Kent continues on page 65...

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25. All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
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27. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
28. Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

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Good Schools Guide: A top-notch co-ed school catering for that neglected breed, ordinary children, as well as for the higher flier

ASHFORD

HMC, IAPS - East Hill, Ashford, Kent TN24 8PB
750 boys and girls aged 3-18; senior school of 440 pupils with 125 boarders and 160 in the Sixth Form

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER

For August 2010

This is an exciting opportunity for a well qualified IT Manger. You will lead a small team of technical staff to provide outstanding levels of support to staff and systems throughout the school.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR

To start as soon as possible

We seek an MIS Administrator, ideally BSc with experience in a similar role. You will provide accurate and timely information to enable the smooth and effective running of the school. You will have experience in data handling and database systems, with proven project management skills.

Please contact Mrs Anne Rylands, Head's PA, Ashford School for more information / application form and return by Friday 14 May 2010.
T: 01233 739032 • E: rylandsa@ashfordschool.co.uk

United Church Schools Trust
The best in everyone

Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and the CRB.

THAMESVIEW SCHOOL with Business & Enterprise Status
Thong Lane, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4LF
Headteacher: **Miss R. Hughes** B.Ed Hons
Tel: 01474 566552 Fax: 01474 537405
email: school@thamesview.kent.sch.uk
Website: http://www.thamesview.kent.sch.uk

ICT Technician

37 hours per week
40 weeks per year
KCC Salary Scheme 3 (points 7 - 11) £14,099 to £15,984 pa
Pro rata to £12,167.44 to £13,794.19 pa

We wish to appoint an ICT Technician for an immediate start to provide ICT support to the school and to ensure the effective and efficient provision of ICT equipment, services and advice. You will be a point of contact for members of staff who require basic ICT assistance, and to troubleshoot minor problems.

The successful applicant must:

- Have good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Be able to work as a flexible member of a team.
- Possess current working knowledge of major applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, and databases.
- Be able to demonstrate a passion for and hands on approach to ICT.
- Work with diligence and accuracy.
- Be confident to work independently and multi-task

We are in the current wave of Building Schools for the Future (BSF), so have a brand new school due to open in July 2010 with incredible facilities for indoor and outdoor learning. We will also have over £1m spent on future technology and ICT throughout.

If you have the qualities required, you may obtain further details and an application form by telephoning the school 01474 566552 ext. 208 or email k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk Details of this vacancy are also available on our website at www.thamesview.kent.sch.uk

CVs without an application form will not be accepted.

Closing date: 17th May 2010
Interview date: 21st May 2010

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students.
Appointment to this post will require an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau.
Thamesview School operates a non-smoking policy

MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer in Electrical Installation Ref: P0357

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience)
Medway

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential.

Lecturer in Travel and Tourism Ref: P0154

Salary: £24,096 - £27,881 pro rata (dependant on qualifications and experience)
22.2 hours per week Medway

An exciting opportunity has arisen for an excellent candidate to deliver and participate in the development of the Travel and Tourism programmes. Responsibilities will include establishing and developing travel and tourism industry contacts to enhance the students learning experience. A recognised Travel and Tourism qualification is essential. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Functional Skills Ref: P0468

Salary: £24,096 - £27,881 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience)
Medway

The College is seeking an exceptional candidate to participate in the delivery of Skills for Life qualifications across all the College Faculties. The successful candidate will be willing to organise and lead extracurricular and enrichment activities and contribute to the development of Functional Skills across the College. The ideal candidate will have experience of teaching Basic and Skills and Functional Skills and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Market Research Officer Ref: P0464

Salary: £18,709 - £20,674 pro rata
18.5 hours per week (The College operates a flexible working policy)
Medway

We are looking for a creative and enthusiastic individual to assist the Marketing Team in devising and implementing effective internal and external market research. Excellent IT skills are essential as the role will also include keeping the College website up to date. The ideal candidate will have experience of carrying out market research activities and a good working knowledge of market research related software such as SNAP or Active.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in IT Ref: SE006

Hourly rate: £22.64 - £27.46 (dependant on qualifications and experience)

The College is looking to recruit a passionate individual to teach BTEC National and First Diploma IT programmes. Experience and knowledge of BTEC is desirable and ability to teach Functional Skills to level 2 would be welcome. The ideal candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised Teaching Qualification.

Closing date: Wednesday 19 May 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Action for Business College | Investors in Diversity | Positive About Disabled People | RBLI | Investor in People

...Jobs for Kent continued from page 32

Three Leaders One Vision

Leaders of Creative, Media & Performance Subject Cluster (including Dance, Drama, Art, Photography, Design & Media, Textiles)

Health & Society Cluster (including food, PSHE, Health & Social Care, PG Physchology, Sociology, Child Development, Technology)

Physcial World subject Cluster (including Science, Geography, Technology)

Commencing September 2010 Pay Spine L10-L14 as Extended Leadership Team Member

As a Business & Enterprise specialist school, Northfleet School for Girls is a 'model of excellence' delivering a broad and varied education to over 1150 students aged from 11-18. BSF has brought state-of-the-art facilities which, together with a very strong caring and supportive ethos, ensure that students are "always learning – learning all ways" (the school motto).

Inter-connecting subjects have come together in clusters as Domains and your challenge is to achieve cohesion and enhance the performance of the Domain. You will teach one of the cluster subjects. Domain leaders also drive and develop key growth areas of the school.

There is huge potential to make your mark by innovating, making connections, enthusing others and delivering excellence. It is vital that you are a strong, proven leader with experience as a department head or a leader and preferably in open plan learning. You will bring a track record of excellent teaching and implementing positive change, with the ability to get the best from talented staff and subject leaders.

For further information please contact Mrs Julie Wilson, Headteacher, Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ

Tel: 0844 477 2525.
Email: personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Closing date: Tuesday, 18 May 2010.
Interviews to be held: 24-27 May 2010.

www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Always Learning · Learning All Ways · Northfleet School for Girls

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

Sales/Business Development

Churchill House is a successful Ramsgate based private school providing English courses for international students throughout the year. We have an excellent reputation for providing high quality courses in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

We are looking for an experienced Business Development professional with first class communication skills. You will work as part of our sales and marketing team and be a team player with experience in business development and account management, preferably in the EFL industry.

You are highly computer literate and comfortable dealing with people at all levels. You have a dynamic, diplomatic and persuasive approach to selling with strong business acumen. Highly motivated and well organised, with good written and verbal communication skills in English. Fluency in another language is desirable. The role will include significant international travel.

This is an exciting and responsible position with a generous remuneration package tailored to attract the best. Send your CV and current salary to Churchill House, Spencer Square, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 9EQ or email **Greg@Churchillhouse.co.uk**

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The smart way to find a job in the County

Fancy a change?

A unique opportunity for a
Good or Outstanding Teacher

We require an inspirational and dynamic teacher to join our team of professionals at this highly successful special school for pupils with autism.
Please email quest_school@btconnect.com for a job specification & application form or call the school office on 01732 522700.
Closing date for applications:
Friday 15th May 2010.

Cobham Hall
Independent Girls' Day and Boarding School
Cobham Kent DA12 3BL

Learning Support Teacher

Part-time (approximately 50%). Experience of supporting students in Mathematics and Science across KS3 and KS4 is required. The school is CReSTeD registered and experience of working with students with specific learning difficulties is preferable, although training will be given if necessary.

Teacher of Psychology

Part-time (approximately 25%). To teach Year 12 and Year 13 courses. Experience of IB an advantage but not essential.

All posts are for September 2010. Cobham Hall is an independent girls' boarding and day school and is set in 145 acres of stunning parkland in North West Kent. It is conveniently located near the A2 and M25. Please visit our website or contact the Headmaster's PA, Mrs C Blackwell, for further details of the posts and an application form. Closing date for applications is 13th May 2010, with interviews the following week.

The school is an equal opportunities employer. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful applicants are subject to a CRB check.

Tel: 01474 823371 • Fax 01474 825902
E-mail: blackwellc@cobhamhall.com
www.cobhamhall.com
Registered Charity No. 313650

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Accountancy

Part Time Legal Accounting Assistant

Canterbury
Salary: TBC
Part Time Legal Accounting Assistant - Canterbury Office (25 hours per week) We have an opening in our Accounts department working as part of a team dealing with both client and office accounts (25 hours per week, afternoons preferred). You must have experience of computerised accounting systems. Ideally, you will have experience of Solicitors' Accounts Rules and be ILCA qualified but these are not essential. Offices in Canterbury, Chatham and Whitstable, also at Lloyd's of London. Please send your cv with a covering letter stating which role you are interested in to the HR Manager, Furley Page LLP, 39 St Margaret's Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2TX or by email, hr@furleypage.co.uk www.furleypage.co.uk
To apply/more information: HR Manager
Furley Page Solicitors
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email hr@furleypage.co.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Administrator and PA to Doctor

Canterbury
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 10/05/10
Full-time/ Part-time/Jobshare Are you looking for a change in direction or looking to take a new route with your skills? An opportunity has arisen within a rapidly expanding, exceptional health centre.The position is extremely sought after and is available immediately. Administrator and PA to Doctor of a rapidly expanding health care practice. We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics) Basic computer skills are preferable: Proficient user of Sage 50 and Microsoft Office, particularly Word, Excel and Publisher • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient. Work well solo • Works well within a team • Thrives on self improvement and success.
To apply/more information: Practice Manager
Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: ISC1
Tel: 01227 789977
Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

Receptionist / Customer Service

Canterbury
Salary: negotiable
Closing Date: 10/05/10
FULL-TIME OR JOBSHARE/PART-TIME can you Provide excellent service "Walt Disney style"? Are you • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient • Work well solo • Work well within a team • Thrive on self improvement and success? Then we have the job for you!! We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics). Basic computer skills are preferable. No experience necessary as full training will be given. Apply for this position if you consider yourself to be confident and outgoing. If you think you have what we are looking for, please apply in writing with your CV to: Practice Manager, The Wellness Practice Ltd, Blean, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 9EB.
To apply/more information: Practice Manager
Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: cust 001
Tel: 01227 789977
Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

Catering, Hospitality

Chef d'Partie

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBC
Required for The Beacon. 1.5miles from Tunbridge Wells. Experience preferred.
To apply/more information: Diego
Beacon (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 524252
Email beaconhotel@btopenworld.com

Child Care

Flexi Bank Workers

Broadstairs
Salary: Hourly Rate tbc
Closing Date: 12 noon 28th May 2010
FLEXI BANK TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS - CHILDCARE Working as part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends. For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children. An Enhanced CRB Dislosure will be required. Please note CV's will not be considered.
To apply/more information: Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: Flexi
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

Pipe Layers, Pipe Fitters and Ground Workers

Kent
Salary: TBA
Specialists in pipeline construction and heavy civils. The following vacancies have arisen: Large diameter water main Pipe Layers, Pipe Fitters & Ground Workers. Experience, ticketed individuals required to work on water main contracts CSCS & CPCS Blue Water Hygiene Card First Aid an advantage Interested Candidates should contact Robert Bartlett 01258 472419 Bartlett Contractors Ltd, Stearts Yard, Hinton St. Mary, Sturminster Newton, Dorset, DT10 1ND fiona@bartlettcontractors.co.uk
To apply/more information: Bartlett Contractors
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01258 472419
Email fiona@bartlettcontractors.co.uk

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Customer Service, Call Centre

CARER RECRUITMENT - OPEN AFTERNOONS

Kent
Salary: TBA
CARER RECRUITMENT - OPEN AFTERNOONS THURSDAY 13 MAY • BETWEEN 2.30PM - 4.30PM ENBROOK PAVILION, ENBROOK PARK, SANDGATE, FOLKESTONE CT20 3SE VARIETY OF FULL AND PART-TIME ROLES IN CANTERBURY, DOVER, DEAL, NEW ROMNEY, HYTHE, FOLKESTONE & WHITSTABLE • COMPETITIVE PAY RATES Could you help us provide high-quality care for older people in their own homes? If so, come and meet the team! There's full training, although own car is essential. If you can't make our open afternoons, you can still apply by calling 01303 757399 for an application form or download one from our website. Completed forms can be posted to Helen Robinson, HR Advisor, Saga Independent Living Limited, Cheriton Parc House, Cheriton High Street, Folkestone, Kent CT18 8AN. Please quote reference number SIL388/KOS in your application.
To apply/more information: Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SIL388/KOS
Tel: 01303 757399
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Domestic

General Domestic Assistant

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
5 STAR BED & BREAKFAST IN CANTERBURY require General Domestic Assistant Duties include washing, ironing and cleaning. Mon - Fri 9am to noon Chamber Person To make beds and clean bathrooms. Experience essential 8am - noon 4 mornings per week Tel: 01227 451243.
To apply/more information: Yorke Lodge
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 451243
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Chamber Person

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
5 STAR BED & BREAKFAST IN CANTERBURY require General Domestic Assistant Duties include washing, ironing and cleaning. Mon - Fri 9am to noon Chamber Person To make beds and clean bathrooms. Experience essential 8am - noon 4 mornings per week Tel: 01227 451243.
To apply/more information: Yorke Lodge
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 451243
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Full Time/Part Time Cleaners

Folkestone
Salary: .
We are a vehicle based cleaning, caretaking and gardening company based in Folkestone. We require full time/ part time cleaners on a temporary basis for 8 weeks with a possibility of becoming permanent. Hours - Monday to Friday Between 08:00am to 6:00pm. You must have cleaning experience. Duties will include cleaning communal areas to blocks of flats, cleaning car parks, litter picking and gardening. You will also be working as part of a team. Full clean driving licence required as you will be required to travel throughout the whole of Kent. We require very reliable people who enjoy hard work and good pay. Interviews will be held on 13th and 14th May With a start date of 24th May For further information, please call Fiona on tel: 01303 248828.
To apply/more information: Fiona
DMS
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 248828
Email applicaitons@jobsforkent.co.uk

Experienced Office Cleaner

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Part time (weekend) experienced office cleaner required ASAP in Ashford Domestic Station Area. Please call Wojtek 07717 746180.
To apply/more information: Clean Concepts
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07717 746180
Email wojtek@cleanconcepts.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

New Careers in Health and Wellness

Maidstone
Salary: £1000.00+ per mnth A REWARDING NEW CAREER IN HEALTH AND WELLNESS Personal Wellness Coaches required P/T hours to suit-work from home Full Training and Support available £1000.00+ per mnth. Call Estelle on 01622 664861 www.arribakent.biz.
To apply/more information: Arriba
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 664861
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Learning Support Teacher

Rochester
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 13th May 2010
Learning Support Teacher Part-time (approximately 50%). Experience of supporting students in Mathematics and Science across KS3 and KS4 is required. The school is CReSTeD registered and experience of working with students with specific learning difficulties is preferable, although training will be given if necessary. All posts are for September 2010. Cobham Hall is an independent girls' boarding and day school and is set in 145 acres of stunning parkland in North West Kent. It is conveniently located near the A2 and M25. Please visit our website or contact the Headmaster's PA, Mrs C Blackwell, for further details of the posts and an application form. Closing date for applications is 13th May 2010, with interviews the following week. The school is an equal opportunities employer. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful applicants are subject to a CRB check. Tel: 01474 823371 • Fax 01474 825902 E-mail: blackwellc@cobhamhall.com www.cobhamhall.com Registered Charity No. 313650
To apply/more information: Cobham Hall School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 823371
Email blackwellc@cobhamhall.com

Teacher of Psychology

Rochester
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 13th May 2010
Teacher of Psychology Part-time (approximately 25%). To teach Year 12 and Year 13 courses. Experience of IB an advantage but not essential. All posts are for September 2010. Cobham Hall is an independent girls' boarding and day school and is set in 145 acres of stunning parkland in North West Kent. It is conveniently located near the A2 and M25. Please visit our website or contact the Headmaster's PA, Mrs C Blackwell, for further details of the posts and an application form. Closing date for applications is 13th May 2010, with interviews the following week. The school is an equal opportunities employer. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful applicants are subject to a CRB check. Tel: 01474 823371 • Fax 01474 825902 E-mail: blackwellc@cobhamhall.com www.cobhamhall.com Registered Charity No. 313650
To apply/more information: Cobham Hall School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 823371
Email blackwellc@cobhamhall.com

Teacher Vacancy KS3/4

Broadstairs
Salary: Main Scale + 1 SEN Point
Closing Date: Monday 17 May 2010
The Foreland is a day special school for 140 pupils with profound, severe or complex learning difficulties including some with autistic spectrum disorder. Teacher Vacancy KS3/4 Main Scale + 1 SEN Point Required for September 2010 We have a vacancy for a full-time class teacher to work with pupils aged 11-16years. Class sizes range between 8 and 11 pupils, supported by at least 3 Teaching Assistants. Experience of working with pupils with severe learning difficulties and/or ASD is desirable but not essential and applications will be welcomed from teachers wishing to transfer to this type of work. Induction training will be provided in school and there are opportunities to pursue specialist training courses. The ability to work with other disciplines and to manage a small team of your own teaching assistants is however required. As a result of the review of special schools in Kent it is intended that the school roll will eventually rise to 165 and as a result "significant expansion" will be needed. Exciting plans for a complete rebuild of the school in conjunction with a rebuild of Hartsdown Technology College in Margate are underway via the Building Schools for the Future initiative. As our school changes flexibility in the school's organisation will need to be maintained. Candidates should therefore be aware that this post is an appointment to the school as a whole, not necessarily fixed in the current Key Stage. If possible, interested persons should make an informal visit to the school in order to meet the Head of Department and find out more about the nature of the work involved. The school also currently has 2 vacancies in the administration support team. Whilst the roles are distinctly separate there is a possibility that the 2 positions could be combined for a suitably qualified and experienced candidate. Data/Personnel Assistant 15 hours per week Inclusion Support and INSET Administrator 10 hours per week Salary scale Kent Scheme 5 Reporting to the School Business Manager you will be smart, cheerful and well spoken so that you project a suitably professional image of the school to the many people with whom you are in contact. Methodical and well organised you will set a good example to your colleagues, and you will be committed to team development and team working. The ability to maintain a positive working atmosphere within this small but busy team is essential, as is the need to share knowledge and skills with colleagues in order to increase the effectiveness of the team. You will be proficient in the use of ICT and willing to explore a range of software with a view to making the school offices even more efficient and effective. Previous financial experience, including the ability to monitor and report on budget income and expenditure, is an essential quality for both positions, together with experience of delivering high quality, professional administrative support. Candidates will also need to be totally committed to working in a confidential and discrete manner due to the sensitive nature of many of the duties of the roles. It is a specific requirement that candidates for the position of Personnel / Data Assistant will need to demonstrate previous experience or qualification in Personnel and payroll, including relevant personnel and recruitment legislation. The Foreland School is committed to the safeguarding and well-being of children therefore all successful candidates will need to pass an Enhanced CRB check. To arrange a visit to the school please telephone 01843 863891 and ask to speak to the School Business Manager or PA to the Head Teacher. Requests for application packs should be made by email, quoting the position of interest to: foreland@foreland.kent.sch.uk Closing date for receipt of applications for all positions is Monday 17 May 2010 Interviews are expected to take place during week commencing 24 May 2010.
To apply/more information: Foreland School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email foreland@foreland.kent.sch.uk

Advertise your latest vacancies here and online
JobsforKent.co.uk
To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Data/Personnel Assistant

Broadstairs
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Monday 17 May 2010
The Foreland is a day special school for 140 pupils with profound, severe or complex learning difficulties including some with autistic spectrum disorder. The school currently has 2 vacancies in the administration support team. Whilst the roles are distinctly separate there is a possibility that the 2 positions could be combined for a suitably qualified and experienced candidate. Data/Personnel Assistant 15 hours per week Inclusion Support and INSET Administrator 10 hours per week Salary scale Kent Scheme 5 Reporting to the School Business Manager you will be smart, cheerful and well spoken so that you project a suitably professional image of the school to the many people with whom you are in contact. Methodical and well organised you will set a good example to your colleagues, and you will be committed to team development and team working. The ability to maintain a positive working atmosphere within this small but busy team is essential, as is the need to share knowledge and skills with colleagues in order to increase the effectiveness of the team. You will be proficient in the use of ICT and willing to explore a range of software with a view to making the school offices even more efficient and effective. Previous financial experience, including the ability to monitor and report on budget income and expenditure, is an essential quality for both positions, together with experience of delivering high quality, professional administrative support. Candidates will also need to be totally committed to working in a confidential and discrete manner due to the sensitive nature of many of the duties of the roles. It is a specific requirement that candidates for the position of Personnel / Data Assistant will need to demonstrate previous experience or qualification in Personnel and payroll, including relevant personnel and recruitment legislation. The Foreland School is committed to the safeguarding and well-being of children therefore all successful candidates will need to pass an Enhanced CRB check. To arrange a visit to the school please telephone 01843 863891 and ask to speak to the School Business Manager or PA to the Head Teacher. Requests for application packs should be made by email, quoting the position of interest to: foreland@foreland.kent.sch.uk Closing date for receipt of applications for all positions is Monday 17 May 2010 Interviews are expected to take place during week commencing 24 May 2010.
To apply/more information: Foreland School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email foreland@foreland.kent.sch.uk

Inclusion Support and INSET Administrator

Broadstairs
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Monday 17 May 2010
The Foreland is a day special school for 140 pupils with profound, severe or complex learning difficulties including some with autistic spectrum disorder. The school currently has 2 vacancies in the administration support team. Whilst the roles are distinctly separate there is a possibility that the 2 positions could be combined for a suitably qualified and experienced candidate. Data/Personnel Assistant 15 hours per week Inclusion Support and INSET Administrator 10 hours per week Salary scale Kent Scheme 5 Reporting to the School Business Manager you will be smart, cheerful and well spoken so that you project a suitably professional image of the school to the many people with whom you are in contact. Methodical and well organised you will set a good example to your colleagues, and you will be committed to team development and team working. The ability to maintain a positive working atmosphere within this small but busy team is essential, as is the need to share knowledge and skills with colleagues in order to increase the effectiveness of the team. You will be proficient in the use of ICT and willing to explore a range of software with a view to making the school offices even more efficient and effective. Previous financial experience, including the ability to monitor

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and report on budget income and expenditure, is an essential quality for both positions, together with experience of delivering high quality, professional administrative support. Candidates will also need to be totally committed to working in a confidential and discrete manner due to the sensitive nature of many of the duties of the roles. It is a specific requirement that candidates for the position of Personnel / Data Assistant will need to demonstrate previous experience or qualification in Personnel and payroll, including relevant personnel and recruitment legislation. The Foreland School is committed to the safeguarding and well-being of children therefore all successful candidates will need to pass an Enhanced CRB check. To arrange a visit to the school please telephone 01843 863891 and ask to speak to the School Business Manager or PA to the Head Teacher. Requests for application packs should be made by email, quoting the position of interest to: foreland@foreland.kent.sch.uk Closing date for receipt of applications for all positions is Monday 17 May 2010 Interviews are expected to take place during week commencing 24 May 2010.
To apply/more information: Foreland School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email foreland@foreland.kent.sch.uk

Subject Lead Learner - English

Aylesford
Salary: MPS + TLR2b
Closing Date: 17th May 2010
We employ two Subject Lead Learners in our core subjects. We are a National Challenge school which enable us to offer various government incentives for the right candidate. Aylesford School - Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School - Sports College we can offer you:- * A brand new school. * Outstanding new facilities in all areas. * NQT/ New staff induction package that is second to none. * A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. * Your own laptop. * A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another. * A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We are looking for a committed professional who:- * Can motivate students through the curriculum. * Has the desire to make the difference. * Is focussed on developing their career further. * Is able to teach English at key stage 3 and 4. Please note that this School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. If you are keen to join our team at this exciting time in the development of our School please contact Miss Jill McKenna, on 01622-717341 ext 204 or e-mail jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk for an application pack. Closing date is: Monday 17th May 2010 at 12 noon. Interviews to take place: Thursday 20th May 2010.
To apply/more information: Jill McKenna Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Sales/Business Development

Ramsgate
Salary: TBA
Sales/Business Development Churchill House is a successful Ramsgate based private school providing English courses for international students throughout the year. We have an excellent reputation for providing high quality courses in a warm, friendly atmosphere. We are looking for an experienced Business Development professional with first class communication skills. You will work as part of our sales and marketing team and be a team player with experience in business development and account management, preferably in the EFL industry. You are highly computer literate and comfortable dealing with people at all levels. You have a dynamic, diplomatic and persuasive approach to selling with strong business acumen. Highly motivated and well organised, with good written and verbal communication skills in English. Fluency in another language is desirable. The role will include significant international travel. This is an exciting and responsible position with a generous remuneration package tailored to attract the best. Send your CV and current salary to Churchill House, Spencer Square, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 9EQ or email Greg@Churchillhouse.co.uk
To apply/more information: Churchill House School of English
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Greg@Churchillhouse.co.uk

Hourly Paid Lecturer in IT

Medway
Salary: Hourly rate: £22.64 - £27.46
Closing Date: Wednesday 19 May 2010
MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas: Hourly Paid Lecturer in IT Ref: SE006 Hourly rate: £22.64 - £27.46 (dependant on qualifications and experience) The College is looking to recruit a passionate individual to teach BTEC National and First Diploma IT programmes. Experience and knowledge of BTEC is desirable and ability to teach Functional Skills to level 2 would be welcome. The ideal candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised Teaching Qualification. Closing date: Wednesday 19 May 2010 MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: SE006
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

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Market Research Officer

Medway
Salary: £18,709 - £20,674 pro rata
Closing Date: Wednesday 19 May 2010
MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas: Market Research Officer Ref: P0464 Salary: £18,709 - £20,674 pro rata 18.5 hours per week (The College operates a flexible working policy) Medway We are looking for a creative and enthusiastic individual to assist the Marketing Team in devising and implementing effective internal and external market research. Excellent IT skills are essential as the role will also include keeping the College website up to date. The ideal candidate will have experience of carrying out market research activities and a good working knowledge of market research related software such as SNAP or Active. MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0468
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Functional Skills

Medway
Salary: £24,096 - £27,881 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 19 May 2010
MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas: Lecturer in Functional Skills Ref: P0468 Salary: £24,096 - £27,881 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) Medway The College is seeking an exceptional candidate to participate in the delivery of Skills for Life qualifications across all the College Faculties. The successful candidate will be willing to organise and lead extracurricular and enrichment activities and contribute to the development of Functional Skills across the College. The ideal candidate will have experience of teaching Basic and Skills and Functional Skills and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0464
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Travel and Tourism

Medway
Salary: £24,096 - £27,881 pro rata
MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas: Lecturer in Travel and Tourism Ref: P0154 Salary: £24,096 - £27,881 pro rata (dependant on qualifications and experience) 22.2 hours per week Medway An exciting opportunity has arisen for an excellent candidate to deliver and participate in the development of the Travel and Tourism programmes. Responsibilities will include establishing and developing travel and tourism industry contacts to enhance the students learning experience. A recognised Travel and Tourism qualification is essential. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0154
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Electrical Installation

Medway
Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 19 May 2010
MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas: Lecturer in Electrical Installation Ref: P0357 Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) Medway We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential. MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0357
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Teacher

West Malling
Salary: TBC
Fancy a change? A unique opportunity for a Good or Outstanding Teacher We require an inspirational and dynamic teacher to join our team of professionals at this highly successful special school for pupils with autism. Please email quest_school@btconnect.com for a job specification & application form or call the school office on 01732 522700. Closing date for applications: Friday 15th May 2010.
To apply/more information: School Office Quest School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 522700
Email quest_school@btconnect.com

Management Information Systems

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 14 May 2010
Good Schools Guide: A top-notch co-ed school catering for that neglected breed, ordinary children, as well as for the higher flier INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER For August 2010 This is an exciting opportunity for a well qualified IT Manger. You will lead a small team of technical staff to provide outstanding levels of support to staff and systems throughout the school. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR To start as soon as possible We seek an MIS Administrator, ideally BSc with experience in a similar role. You will provide accurate and timely information to enable the smooth and effective running of the school.You will have experience in data handling and database systems, with proven project management skills. Please contact Mrs Anne Rylands, Head's PA, Ashford School for more information / application form and return by Friday 14 May 2010. T: 01233 739032 • E: rylandsa@ashfordschool.co.uk Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and the CRB.
To apply/more information: Ashford School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 739032
Email rylandsa@ashfordschool.co.uk

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01303 817040

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 14 May 2010
Good Schools Guide: A top-notch co-ed school catering for that neglected breed, ordinary children, as well as for the higher flier INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER For August 2010 This is an exciting opportunity for a well qualified IT Manger. You will lead a small team of technical staff to provide outstanding levels of support to staff and systems throughout the school. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR To start as soon as possible We seek an MIS Administrator, ideally BSc with experience in a similar role. You will provide accurate and timely information to enable the smooth and effective running of the school.You will have experience in data handling and database systems, with proven project management skills. Please contact Mrs Anne Rylands, Head's PA, Ashford School for more information / application form and return by Friday 14 May 2010. T: 01233 739032 • E: rylandsa@ashfordschool.co.uk Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and the CRB.
To apply/more information: Ashford School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 739032
Email rylandsa@ashfordschool.co.uk

ICT Technician

Gravesend
Salary: Pro rata to £12,167.44 to £13,794.19 pa
Closing Date: 17th May 2010
ICT Technician 37 hours per week 40 weeks per year KCC Salary Scheme 3 (points 7 - 11) £14,099 to £15,984 pa Pro rata to £12,167.44 to £13,794.19 pa We wish to appoint an ICT Technician for an immediate start to provide ICT support to the school and to ensure the effective and efficient provision of ICT equipment, services and advice.You will be a point of contact for members of staff who require basic ICT assistance, and to troubleshoot minor problems. The successful applicant must: • Have good interpersonal and communication skills. • Be able to work as a flexible member of a team. • Possess current working knowledge of major applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, and databases. • Be able to demonstrate a passion for and hands on approach to ICT. • Work with diligence and accuracy. • Be confident to work independently and multi-task We are in the current wave of Building Schools for the Future (BSF), so have a brand new school due to open in July 2010 with incredible facilities for indoor and outdoor learning.We will also have over £1m spent on future technology and ICT throughout. If you have the qualities required, you may obtain further details and an application form by telephoning the school 01474 566552 ext. 208 or email k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk Details of this vacancy are also available on our website at www.thamesview.kent.sch.uk CVs without an application form will not be accepted. Interview date: 21st May 2010 We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students. Appointment to this post will require an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau. Thamesview School operates a non-smoking policy.
To apply/more information: Thames View Junior School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 566552 ext. 208
Email k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk

Leaders of Creative, Media and Performance Subject Cluster

Dartford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Tuesday, 18 May 2010

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Leaders of Creative, Media & Performance Subject Cluster (including Dance, Drama, Art, Photography, Design & Media, Textiles) Health & Society Cluster (including food, PSHE, Health & Social Care, PG Physchology, Sociology, Child Development, Technology) Physcial World subject Cluster (including Science, Geography, Technology) Commencing September 2010 Pay Spine L10-L14 as Extended Leadership Team Member As a Business & Enterprise specialist school, Northfleet School for Girls is a 'model of excellence' delivering a broad and varied education to over 1150 students aged from 11-18. BSF has brought state-of-the-art facilities which, together with a very strong caring and supportive ethos, ensure that students are "always learning - learning all ways" (the school motto). Inter-connecting subjects have come together in clusters as Domains and your challenge is to achieve cohesion and enhance the performance of the Domain. You will teach one of the cluster subjects. Domain leaders also drive and develop key growth areas of the school. There is huge potential to make your mark by innovating, making connections, enthusing others and delivering excellence. It is vital that you are a strong, proven leader with experience as a department head or a leader and preferably in open plan learning. You will bring a track record of excellent teaching and implementing positive change, with the ability to get the best from talented staff and subject leaders. For further information please contact Mrs Julie Wilson, Headteacher, Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ Tel: 0844 477 2525. Email: personnel@ northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk Closing date: Tuesday, 18 May 2010. Interviews to be held: 24-27 May 2010. www. northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

To apply/more information: Northfleet School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0844 477 2525
Email personnel@ northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Health and Society Cluster

Dartford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Tuesday, 18 May 2010
Leaders of Creative, Media & Performance Subject Cluster (including Dance, Drama, Art, Photography, Design & Media, Textiles) Health & Society Cluster (including food, PSHE, Health & Social Care, PG Physchology, Sociology, Child Development, Technology) Physcial World subject Cluster (including Science, Geography, Technology) Commencing September 2010 Pay Spine L10-L14 as Extended Leadership Team Member As a Business & Enterprise specialist school, Northfleet School for Girls is a 'model of excellence' delivering a broad and varied education to over 1150 students aged from 11-18. BSF has brought state-of-the-art facilities which, together with a very strong caring and supportive ethos, ensure that students are "always learning - learning all ways" (the school motto). Inter-connecting subjects have come together in clusters as Domains and your challenge is to achieve cohesion and enhance the performance of the Domain. You will teach one of the cluster subjects. Domain leaders also drive and develop key growth areas of the school. There is huge potential to make your mark by innovating, making connections, enthusing others and delivering excellence. It is vital that you are a strong, proven leader with experience as a department head or a leader and preferably in open plan learning. You will bring a track record of excellent teaching and implementing positive change, with the ability to get the best from talented staff and subject leaders. For further information please contact Mrs Julie Wilson, Headteacher, Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ Tel: 0844 477 2525. Email: personnel@ northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk Closing date: Tuesday, 18 May 2010. Interviews to be held: 24-27 May 2010. www. northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

To apply/more information: Northfleet School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0844 477 2525
Email personnel@ northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Physcial World subject Cluster

Dartford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Tuesday, 18 May 2010
Leaders of Creative, Media & Performance Subject Cluster (including Dance, Drama, Art, Photography, Design & Media, Textiles) Health & Society Cluster (including food, PSHE, Health & Social Care, PG Physchology, Sociology, Child Development, Technology) Physcial World subject Cluster (including Science, Geography, Technology) Commencing September 2010 Pay Spine L10-L14 as Extended Leadership Team Member As a Business & Enterprise specialist school, Northfleet School for Girls is a 'model of excellence' delivering a broad and varied education to over 1150 students aged from 11-18. BSF has brought state-of-the-art facilities which, together with a very strong caring and supportive ethos, ensure that students are "always learning - learning all ways" (the school motto). Inter-connecting subjects have come together in clusters as Domains and your challenge is to achieve cohesion and enhance the performance of the Domain. You will teach one of the cluster subjects. Domain leaders also drive and develop key growth areas of the school. There is huge potential to make your mark by innovating, making connections, enthusing others and delivering excellence. It is vital that you are a strong, proven leader with experience as a department head or a leader and preferably in open plan learning. You will bring a track record of excellent teaching and implementing positive change, with the ability to get the best from talented staff and subject leaders. For further information please contact Mrs Julie Wilson, Headteacher, Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ Tel: 0844 477 2525. Email: personnel@ northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk. Interviews to be held: 24-27 May 2010. www. northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

To apply/more information: Northfleet School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0844 477 2525
Email personnel@ northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

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Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Welder/Fabricator

Maidstone
Salary: £10.76 per hour
Welder/Fabricator £10.76 per hour. We have a vacancy for an all round experienced Welder/Fabricator to carry out general fabrication duties including: drilling, tapping guillotine, grinding etc. Welding skills are essential - working with large stainless steel items, mild steel and having the ability to read and work to drawings. The ability to carry out press work would be an advantage. To apply please contact Amy Taylor on 01622 831006 or email ataylor@scarab-sales.com

To apply/more information: RPJ Engineering Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 831006
Email ataylor@ scarab-sales.com

Estate Agency, Property

Career in Property with Bairstow Eves

Kent
Salary: TBA
Are you any good at hitting targets? If so you should be talking to us about a career in property. Whether you are experienced or not we would love to hear from you. If you have a proven track record in sales, a full driving license and are of a smart appearance, please email your CV to sarah.mcglinchey@bairstowevescountrywide.co.uk. Ashford, Folkestone, Dover

To apply/more information: Mann & Co
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email sarah.mcglinchey@ bairstowevescountrywide.co.uk

Legal

Family Fee Earners

Margate
Salary: TBA
Due to expansion plans and our ongoing commitment to Legal Aid, Boys & Maughan, a Lexcel accredited firm and Thanets largest & oldest legal practice, have vacancies for Family Fee Earners We are committed to the continued growth of our leading family practice and wish to provide a holistic approach to publicly funded work across the firm. We are interested in practitioners of all levels of qualifcation and experience to handle: Representation of Parents, Guardians & Children from instruction to conclusion Residence Applications Adoption Domestic Violence Divorce Financial Provision. An understanding of Legal Aid and experience of managing a large caseload wil be an advantage. We are particularly interested in those who have recently or may soon become eligible for membership of the Law Society Children Panel. All positions are based in Margate, and are excellent opportunities for the right candidate to join a Lexcel accredited law firm. More details including job specifications can be found on our website. Applicants should send a comprehensive CV along with a hand-wriiten covering letter to: Kerry Curson, HR Office, Boys & Maughan, India House, Margate, CT9 1PZ

To apply/more information: Boys & Maughan
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@ jobsforkent.co.uk

Full Time Legal Secretary

Whitstable
Salary: TBC
Full Time Legal Secretary - Whitstable Office We require a highly organised and pro-active private client legal secretary with current experience in Wills, Probate administration and Elderly Client affairs. The successful applicant will be supporting a Senior Legal Executive at our Whitstable office. Excellent IT skills, ability to deal directly with clients and team working are key requirements of this appointment. Offices in Canterbury, Chatham and Whitstable, also at Lloyd's of London. Please send your cv with a covering letter stating which role you are interested in to the HR Manager, Furley Page LLP, 39 St Margaret's Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2TX or by email, hr@furleypage.co.uk www.furleypage.co.uk

To apply/more information: HR Manager
Furley Page Solicitors
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email hr@furleypage.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

Fully Skilled Technician

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Fully Skilled Technician We seek to recruit an experienced and highly motivated technician to be based at our busy Alfa Romeo dealership in Canterbury. The successful candidate will have skills and qualifications gained from a similar role in the industry, have a professional manner and understand the need for delivering excellent customer service at all times. Overtime and bonus negotiable. If interested please apply with your full CV to Adrian Pile at the address below: Northgate Garage (Canterbury) Ltd, Northgate, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1FW.

To apply/more information: Northgate Alpha Romeo
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email adrian.pile@ northgate-alfa.co.uk

Workshop Controller

Ashford
Salary: TBC
Due to the expansion of our business, D&D Autos (Ashford) Ltd are looking to recruit a Workshop Controller for our new state-of-the-art facilities on Orbital Park. Previous experience required. Please email your CV to lorraine@ddautosashford.co.uk or alternatively, please call Lorraine on 01233 504765.

To apply/more information: Lorraine
D&D Autos
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 504765
Email lorraine@ ddautosashford.co.uk

Motor Vehicle Technician

Ashford
Salary: TBC
Due to the expansion of our business, D&D Autos (Ashford) Ltd are looking to recruit a Motor Vehicle Technician - diagnostic experience essential for our new state-of-the-art facilities on Orbital Park. Previous experience required. Please email your CV to lorraine@ ddautosashford.co.uk or alternatively, please call Lorraine on 01233 504765.

To apply/more information: Lorraine
D&D Autos
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 504765
Email lorraine@ ddautosashford.co.uk

FULL TIME DRIVERS

Dover
Salary: TBA
ATTENTION DRIVERS FULL TIME DRIVERS - You will need to have a licence to drive 18t vehicles throughout the UK and Europe. CASUAL DRIVERS - You will need to have a licence to drive 18t,15.5t and vans throughout the UK and Europe. We can offer a secure position within our progressive Company and offer competitive rates of pay. For an application form please visit our website and click on news. Please note if you do not receive a response within 2 weeks, please consider your application unsuccessful at this time. The Special Carrier Ltd, Express House, Kedleston Road, Honeywood Parkway, Whitfield, Dover, Kent CT16 3NX. Tel:01304 820999 www.specialcarrier.com

To apply/more information: Special Carrier
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 820999
Email applications@ jobsforkent.co.uk

CASUAL DRIVERS

Dover
Salary: TBA
ATTENTION DRIVERS FULL TIME DRIVERS - You will need to have a licence to drive 18t vehicles throughout the UK and Europe. CASUAL DRIVERS - You will need to have a licence to drive 18t,15.5t and vans throughout the UK and Europe. We can offer a secure position within our progressive Company and offer competitive rates of pay. For an application form please visit our website and click on news. Please note if you do not receive a response within 2 weeks, please consider your application unsuccessful at this time. The Special Carrier Ltd, Express House, Kedleston Road, Honeywood Parkway, Whitfield, Dover, Kent CT16 3NX. Tel:01304 820999 www.specialcarrier.com.

To apply/more information: Special Carrier
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 820999
Email applications@ jobsforkent.co.uk

Not for profit, Charities

Support Workers - Thanet District

Thanet
Salary: £5.33 - £8.49 per hour
Support Workers - Thanet District Salary £5.33 - £8.49 per hour subject to qualifications and experience Full and Part Time Posts available. We are seeking focussed and organised individuals to support people with Learning Disabilities to develop; services, personal skills and access their community resources. Successful applicants will demonstrate knowledge and application of personalised services and the flexibility to support people with a wide range of skills and abilities. You would be expected to work some evenings, weekends, bank holidays and some sleep-overs. You would also be expected to follow Person Centred approaches and adhere to the guidelines set out in Valuing People Now. Full support and training will be available. These posts are subject to Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau checks. Being holders of the Positive about Disabled People award, disabled applicants who meet the minimum criteria will be offered an interview in every circumstance. The closing date is 21st May 2010. Applications must be via application form. For further information or to request an application form please contact: Lynda Salisbury Office Co-ordinator 01843 224482.

To apply/more information: Lynda Salisbury
East Kent Mencap
Quoting Job Ref: HSW0001
Tel: 01843-224482
Email Lynda.Salisbury@ eastkentmencap.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Massage Therapist

Canterbury
Salary: 8 - 22 k per annum
Closing Date: 10/05/10
FULLTIME PART-TIME/JOBSHARE Positon available at Kent's leading Spinal Health Care Practice in Canterbury. We are looking for hardworking and motivated massage therapists who are: Enthusiastic and committed to helping people Organised and efficient A Team Player Driven to attain self improvement and success Must have basic Massage qualification further in house training given Basic computer skills preferable No Clinical experience necessary as full training will be given NEW GRADUATES WELCOME! Apply for this position if you consider yourself to be confident and outgoing Earning ability fromm £8000 - £22000 per annum If you think you have what we are looking for, please apply in writing with your C.V. to Recruitment Manager, The Wellness Practice LTD Blean Canterbury Kent CT2 9EB.

To apply/more information: Practice Manager
Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: masthe 001
Tel: 01227 789977
Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

Marketing, Sales and Communication

Canterbury
Salary: 12,500-26,500 depending on skils
Closing Date: 10/05/10
FULL-TIME, PART-TIME/JOBSHARE MOTIVATED & READY We are looking for someone who has an ability to communicate confidently with members of the public with a level of service that exceeds expectation. This role is office based within the health and wellness sector and also includes community based events for promotions. Only apply if you are interested in personal growth, development and a career. Whilst the role has a base salary depending on your demonstrative skills, there is huge potential for bonuses for any applicant. That is why you have to be the kind of person who enjoys having goals and helping people get well and stay well. If you love success, you are eager to help people and want to make a difference, please apply immediately.

To apply/more information: Dr. Tracy Harley
Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: 2010-02
Tel: 01227 789977
Email drtracyharley@googlemail.com

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DENTAL PRACTICE MANAGER

Dover
Salary: £35,000
A COMMUNITY FOCUSED AND FAST GROWING DENTAL GROUP REQUIRES: A FULL TIME DENTAL PRACTICE MANAGER FOR A REWARDING AND CHALLENGING LARGE NHS CLINIC IN DOVER CENTRE. THE CANDIDATE MUST HAVE AN IN-DEPTH KNOWLEDGE OF NHS DENTISTRY AND BE COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN BOTH STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE. BASIC SALARY £35,000 PLUS BONUS PLUS CAR ALL ENQUIRIES WILL BE TREATED IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE EMAIL: INFO@ DENTALCLINIC.ME.UK OR CALL 07957612844 TO DISCUSS.

To apply/more information: Smile Community Dental Clinics
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07957612844
Email INFO@DENTALCLINIC.ME.UK

Personal / Domestic care

Whitstable
Salary: TBA
Looking for a job in Herne Bay Working for a company that's professional and respects their employees. Providing personal / domestic care for the elderly in their own homes YES Call Steph 01227 772515 Subject to CRB checks Uniform, training provided.

To apply/more information: Tender Loving Carers
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 772515
Email applications@ jobsforkent.co.uk

Senior Health Care Assistants

Deal
Salary: TBA
Friendly, small care home in Deal, requires day and night Senior Health Care Assistants 30 hours plus per week Experience is essential, fluency in English is required Please ring 01304 372312 for an informal chat with the manager to arrange an interview.

To apply/more information: Rosehurst Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 372312
Email applications@ jobsforkent.co.uk

Support Workers

Sandwich
Salary: TBA
We are recruiting Support Workers & Healthcare Assistants We have vacancies in the following areas: • Learning Disability Units • Domiciliary Care • Staff Agency Call us today for an application form: 01843 822508.

To apply/more information: Family Care Homes
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 822508
Email applications@ jobsforkent.co.uk

Healthcare Assistants

Sandwich
Salary: TBA
We are recruiting Support Workers & Healthcare Assistants We have vacancies in the following areas: • Learning Disability Units • Domiciliary Care • Staff Agency Call us today for an application form: 01843 822508.

To apply/more information: Family Care Homes
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 822508
Email applications@ jobsforkent.co.uk

Highways - District of Ashford

VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD (30 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of junction improvements at Junction 9 with the M20 and Drovers Roundabout, the Kent County Council has made an Order on Various Roads, Ashford, on or after 10 May 2010, for an estimated period of 11 months or until the works are complete.

The effect of the Order is to impose a temporary mandatory speed limit of 30 mph on the following sections of road

Road Name:	**A251 Trinity Road** (properly Sparrows Hall Road)
Extent:	From the 40 mph / National Speed Limit signs to the M20 roundabout
Road Name:	**M20 Junction 9 roundabout**
Extent:	For its entirety
Road Name:	**A20 Fougeres Way**
Extent:	From the M20 roundabout to Drovers Roundabout
Road Name:	**Drovers Roundabout**
Extent:	For its entirety
Road Name:	**A20 Maidstone Road**
Extent:	From a point 400 metres north west of Drovers Roundabout to Drovers Roundabout
Road Name:	**A28 Templer Way**
Extent:	50 metres south of the junction with Repton Avenue to Drovers Roundabout
Road Name:	**A28 Simone Weil Avenue**
Extent:	From a point 260 metres east of Drovers Roundabout to Drovers roundabout
Road Name:	**A292 Maidstone Road**
Extent:	From the existing 30 / 40 mph signs to Drovers Roundabout

This is effective as and when the relevant signs are displayed on site. These restrictions apply to both carriageways of each of the stated roads.

The order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months and will allow the above-mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature, at any time for the duration of the order.

MONKERY LANE, CHARING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of urgent carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Monkery Lane, Charing, on or after 10 May 2010 for an estimated period of 2 days or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed for its entire length. The alternative route for through traffic will be via A252 Canterbury Road and Faversham Road.

POUNDHURST ROAD, RUCKINGE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new electrical supply, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Poundhurst Road, Ruckinge, on and after 24 May 2010, for an estimated period of 5 days or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed outside Fairfield House. The alternative route for through traffic will be via Stone Cross Road, and Stonegate Lane.

FOOTPATH BETWEEN OAST MEADOW AND TAYWOOD CLOSE, ASHFORD (RESTRICTIONS ON PEDESTRIANS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of connections to wastwater piplines for a new housing development, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting pedestrians on the un-named footpath between Oast Meadow and Taywood Close, Ashford, on or after 24 May 2010, for an estimated period of 2 weeks or until the works are complete.

The footpath will be closed for its entire length. The alternative route for pedestrians will be via Taywood Close, Harvey Road, Windmill Close and Oast Meadow.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

LANSDOWN ROAD, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because because of ducting works, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Lansdown Road, Canterbury between properties 11 and 29B on 5 May 2010 for an estimated period of 5 days or until the works are complete.

There will be no alternative route for through traffic. Access will be maintained for residents.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

VARIOUS ROADS, DARTFORD TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads, Dartford as noted in attached Schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 24th May 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: as noted in the schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate micro surface works.

Schedule 1

Road Name:	**Highcross Road, Southfleet**
Extent:	From its junction with Whitehill Road and Betsham Road
Diversion:	Whitehill Road, Green Street Green Road and Sandbanks Hill.
Road Name:	**Betsham Road, Southfleet**
Extent:	From its junction with Westwood Road and Highcross Road
Diversion:	Station Road, Dale Road, Hook Green Road and Highcross Road.
Road Name:	**Sandbanks Hill, Southfleet**
Extent:	From its junction with Green Street Green Road and Highcross Road
Diversion:	Green Street Green Road, Whitehill Road and Highcross Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

WOODNESBOROUGH ROAD, SANDWICH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Woodnesborough Road, Sandwich, on or after 24 May 2010 for an estimated period of 16 weeks or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed between the junctions of Sandwood Road and Moat Sole. The alternative routes will be west bound via Mote Sole, Cattle Market, Harnet Street, Strand Street, High Street, New Street and St Bart's Road; east bound via Woodnesborough Road, St Bart's Road, New Street, Cattle Market and Mote Sole.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

EAST CRESCENT ROAD, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use of vehicular traffic on East Crescent Road, Gravesend from its junction with Milton Road up for 20 metres.

The Order will become effective on 10th May 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Bentley Street and Milton Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Murphy's Limited to install a new electricity supply.

VARIOUS ROADS, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads, Gravesend as noted in attached Schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 10th May 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in Schedule 1. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: as noted in the schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate micro surfacing works.

Schedule 1

Road Name:	**Blenheim Close, Meopham.**
Extent:	For its entire length.
Date:	13th May 2010 for 1 week.
Road Name:	**Grenville Close, Meopham.**
Extent:	For its entire length.
Date:	13th May 2010 for 1 week.
Road Name:	**Oak Mead, Meopham.**
Extent:	For its entire length.
Date:	13th May 2010 for 1 week.
Road Name:	**Warwick Gardens, Meopham.**
Extent:	For its entire length.
Date:	13th May 2010 for 1 week.
Road Name:	**Meadfield Road, Meopham.**
Extent:	From its junction with Wrotham Road to Cheyne Walk.
Date:	13th May 2010 for 1 week.
Diversion:	Cheyne Walk, Whitehill Road, The Street and Wrotham Road.
Road Name:	**Cheyne Walk, Meopham.**
Extent:	From its junction with Meadfield Road and Whitehill Road.
Date:	13th May 2010 for 1 week.
Diversion:	Whitehill Road, The Street, Wrotham Road and Meadfield Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, GRAVESEND (TOWN CENTRE PEDESTRIANISATION RESTRICTIONS) (AMENDMENT NO 1) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1) and (2), 2(1) to (3), 3(2) and 4(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order will have the effect of making an exemption for cyclists from the prohibition of right turn from St James Road into Darnley Road, Gravesend.

Full details are contained in the draft Orders which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at of Gravesham Borough Council Offices, Civic Centre, Gravesham and at Doubleday House, St Michaels Close during normal opening times.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Kent Highway Services, Doubleday House, St Michaels Close, Aylesford, ME20 7BU or by email to consultations@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 31 May 2010.

VARIOUS ROADS, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)(TEMPORARY RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting and restricting the use of vehicular traffic on various roads, Gravesend as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 24th May 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in schedule 1. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: as noted in the schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate winter damage carriageway repairs

Schedule 1

Road Name:	**Stone Street, Gravesend**
Extent:	Between the junctions with Rathmore Road and Clive Road
Date:	30th May 2010 for 1 day from 08.00am
Diversion:	Wrotham Road, Old Road West and Pelham Road.
Road Name:	**Stone Street, Gravesend**
Restriction:	Revoke left turn from Rathmore Road into Stone Street
Date:	30th May for 1 day from 08.00am
Road Name:	**Rathmore Road, Gravesend**
Extent:	Between the junctions with Stone Street and the car park exit
Date:	30th May 2010 for 1 day
Diversion:	Rathmore Road.
Road Name:	**Rathmore Road, Gravesend**
Restriction:	Temporary suspension of the one way working for duration of works
Date:	30th May 2010 for 1 day
Road Name:	**Darnley Road, Gravesend**
Extent:	Between the junctions with Pelham Road and Rathmore Road
Date:	6th June 2010 for 1 day
Diversion:	Darnley Road, New Road, Overcliffe, Lennox Road, Lennox Road East and Darnley Road.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

STOCKETT LANE, TOVIL (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Stockett Lane from the Scout Hut to Abbey Gate Farm on or after Thursday 13th May 2010 for a period of up to 4 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Bockingford Lane, Hayle Mill Road and Cave Hill.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to film a road safety film. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Alexa Kersting-Woods on 01622 698354.

WINDMILL HILL, ULCOMBE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Windmill Hill on or after Tuesday 25th May 2010 for a period of up to 10 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Eastwood Road, The Street, Ulcombe Hill, Lenham Road.

EDF Energy and BT apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to provide new service, ducting and replacing a pole and cables. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contacts are:

EDF – Tom Nolan on 01622 352599, BT (ducting) – Kenton Stewart on 01795 437805 and BT (pole and cables) Tracy Zeal on 08700 500792.

VARIOUS ROADS (WAITING RESTRICTION ORDER) (VARIATION NO 10) ORDER 2010 PROHIBITION OF PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOLS (VARIATION NO 10) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1) and (2), 2(1) to (3), 3(2) and 4 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

1. The first named Order will have the following effect of introducing "no waiting at any time" (double lines) on the following roads or lengths of roads:

   Boughton Lane **Farleigh Lane**

   Gatland Lane **Glebe Avenue**

2. The second named Order will also introduce "school keep clear" markings (zigzags) in the vicinity of **Barming Primary School and Marden Primary School.**

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Council Offices at Maidstone Borough Council and at Kent Highway Services, Doubleday House, St Michaels Close, Aylesford during normal opening times.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order, you should send the grounds for your objection in writing to the Transportation and Development Manager (Maidstone, Tonbridge & Malling), Kent Highway Services, Doubleday House, St Michaels Close, Aylesford, ME20 by 12 noon on Monday 31 May 2010.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

DORSET STREET, SEVENOAKS (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Dorset Street, Sevenoaks between numbers 8 to 101.

The Order will become effective on 10th May 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 5 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: London road and High Street.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a New Gas Supply.

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

LEAVELAND BELLES FORSTAL, THROWLEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of electricity cable replacement, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Leaveland Belles Forstal, Throwley, on or after 10 May 2010, for an estimated period of 2 weeks or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Leaveland Court. The alternative route for through traffic will be via A251 Ashford Road, Bagshill Road, Throwley Road and Workhouse Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

VARIOUS ROADS, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Ramsgate, on or after 24 May 2010, for an estimated period of 5 weeks or until the works are complete.

Each of the roads shown below will be closed at their junction with Margate Road, for up to 5 weeks. The start date for each closure will be notified by advanced signage on site.

Road name:	**Roman Road**
Diversion:	Margate Road and Newington Road
Road name:	**Violet Avenue**
Diversion:	Margate Road, Northwood Road and Hopes Lane
Road name:	**Fitzroy Avenue**
Diversion:	Margate Road, Newington Road and Roman Road

OLD CROSSING ROAD, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Old Crossing Road, Margate, on or after 24 May 2010, for an estimated period of 3 weeks or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed at the junction with Canterbury Road. The alternative route for through traffic will be via Canterbury Road, Bridge Road and Mutrix Road.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

VARIOUS ROADS, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works in connection with the construction of a cycle way, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Margate on or after 24 May 2010, as shown below.

Road Name: **Grosvenor Place, Margate**
Extent: at the junction with Grosvenor Hill
Dates: 26 May 2010 for up to one week
Diversion: Marine Gardens, Belgrave Road and Eaton Road

Road Name: **Grosvenor Hill, Margate**
Extent: between the junctions with Park Place and Grosvenor Place
Dates: 26 May 2010 for up to one week
Diversion: Churchfields, Churchfield Place, Hawley Square, Cecil Square, Marine Gardens, Belgrave Road and Eaton Road
Other Details: The works will be carried out between the hours of 9.30 am and 3.30 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours

There will be a suspension of the One-way Traffic Order in respect of Grosvenor Hill, between the junctions of Park Place and High Street.

Road Name: Victoria Road, Margate
Extent: between the junctions of Church Street and High Street
Dates: 14 June 2010 for up to 2 weeks
Diversion: via Cowper Road, Arnold Road, St Peter's Footpath, Addiscombe Road, and St Peter's Road.
Other details: The works will be carried out between the hours of 9.30 am and 2.45 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

VARIOUS ROADS, THANET (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT NO 30) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to introduce no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the following lengths of road:-

Dane Park Road: on the south western side between points 10 metre northwest and 10 metres south east of the junction with Salisbury Road.
Salisbury Avenue: on both sides from the junction with St Luke's Avenue for a distance of 10 metres in a north easterly direction.
St Luke's Avenue: on the south western side between points 30 metres and 48 metres south east of the junction with Hardres Road.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way

Ashford, TN24 8AD, between 8.30am and 5.00pm, and at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate, during normal opening times.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Transport and Development Team Leader, Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to td.canterbury.thanet@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 31 May 2010.

VARIOUS ROADS, THANET (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT NO 31) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to introduce no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the following lengths of road:-

Ellington Road: on the south western side from a point 10 metres northwest of the junction with Grove Road to the junction with Elms Avenue/ Cannon Road.
Elms Avenue: on the south western side from the junction with Ellington Road/Cannon Road to a point 18 metres north of the junction with North Avenue.
Grove Road: on both sides from the junction with Ellington Road for a distance of 10 metres in a south westerly direction.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way

Ashford, TN24 8AD, between 8.30am and 5.00pm, and at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate, during normal opening times.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Transport and Development Team Leader, Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to td.canterbury.thanet@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 31 May 2010.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

VARIOUS ROADS, TOVIL AND EAST FARLEIGH (50 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2010 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Notice is hereby given that the Kent County Council proposes to make an Order under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to impose a 50 miles per hour speed limit on the lengths of roads described in the Schedule hereto.

A copy of the Order, an explanatory statement and maps showing the lengths of road concerned may be inspected during normal office hours at Kent Highway Services, Network Management, Invicta House, Maidstone Kent, ME14 1XX and at the offices of Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ

Anyone wishing to support this proposal, or to object to it, should write to Sandra Watkins, Speed Limit Review Project Manager, Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd, Miller House, Lower Stone Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6GB quoting The Kent County Council (Various Roads, Tovil and East Farleigh) (50mph Speed Limit) Order 2010 stating their reasons, by not later than 31 May 2010.

Schedule: 50mph speed limit

In the Parish of East Farleigh:

B2010 Lower Road, East Farleigh

From the Parish boundary of Tovil south-westwards to a point 11 metres north-east of the centre line of the access to "Little Court Lodge Farm"

In the Parish of Tovil:

B2010 Dean Street, Tovil

From a point in line with the common boundary of house number 143/145 Dean Street south-westwards to the Parish boundary of East Farleigh

C65 Dean Street, Tovil

From its junction with B2010 Dean Street southwards to a point 66 metres north of the centre line of the access road to "Valley Farm

VARIOUS ROADS, TONBRIDGE AND MALLING (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND ON-STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO 1) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1) and (2), 2(1) to (3) and 3(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order will have the effect of introducing "school keep clear" markings in Discovery Drive in the vicinity of the Discovery Drive School in the interest of public safety to all pedestrians crossing this road gaining access to and from the school.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Council Offices, Town Hall, Civic Way, Royal Tunbridge Wells and at Kent Highway Services, Doubleday House, St Michael's Close. Aylesford

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Transportation & Development Manager (Tunbridge Wells), Kent Highway Services, Doubleday House, St Michael's Close, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 by noon on Monday 31 May 2010.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/10/00774/FL – Snodland Paper Mill Mill Street Snodland Kent ME6 5AT – Mr Derek Wood is applying for repair, strengthening and reconstruction of failed or failing river wall fronting the Smurfit Kappa paper mill site at Snodland onto the River Medway. Any new sections will be steel sheet piles (as existing walls) with timber cladding to provide enhanced biodiversity habitat. The failed river wall also includes the Environment Agency flood wall, which remains breached until the new wall is reconstructed. Reason: CA

TM/10/00561/FL – 19 Ryarsh Road Birling West Malling Kent ME19 5JW – Mr Graham Sullivan is applying for new vehicle and pedestrian access to Ryarsh Road . Reason: CA HH

TM/10/00887/FL – Oakwood Farm Vigo Road Fairseat Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7LT – Mr P K & R & Mrs B Durrant are applying for demolition of existing chicken sheds, workshop, store, packing shed, stables and other associated structures (total 3464sqm floorspace) and erection of 8 no. dwellings with associated parking, garaging, access and landscaping. Reason: DEPART

Reasons for the case being publicised:

CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
DEPART Application does not accord with the Development Plan
HH Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 30 May 2010.

David Hughes
Chief Executive

9 May 2010

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

10/01386/HOUSE **Little Dunks Farm Cuckoo Lane, Brenchley**
- Detached garage and log store (LB)

10/01290/HOUSE **Finches Farmhouse Five Oak Green Road, Capel**
- Garden shed extension to existing double garage (LB)

10/01291/LBC **Finches Farmhouse Five Oak Green Road, Capel**
- Listed Building Consent - Garden shed extension to existing double garage (LB)

10/01306/FUL **Waterloo House Waterloo Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Change of use of vacant premises from Class A1 electrical retail sales to mixed Classes A1 and A3 use (CA) (LB)

10/01380/MOD106 **Co-op Cranbrook High Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Variation of Section 52 agreement relating to changes to Sunday deliveries (TW/87/00065 refers) (CA) (LB)

10/01421/FUL **Holmans Slip Mill Lane, Hawkhurst**
- Change of use from pasture to outdoor riding arean for private use (LB)

10/01314/LBC **Drum & Monkey Cottage Grovehurst Lane, Horsmonden**
- Alterations to kitchen doors and windows (LB)

10/00899/HOUSE **16 Buckingham Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Provision of new vehicular access and crossover with turntable in new parking space (LB) (CA)

10/01184/FUL **3 London Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Diversion of existing cooker flue system to discharge through shopfront signage zone via new louvre (CA)

10/01246/HOUSE **4 Cumberland Gardens Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Mark**
- Demolish outbuildings and replace with a single storey flat roof extension. Alterations to existing building (LB) (CA)

10/01247/LBC **4 Cumberland Gardens Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Listed Building Consent: Demolish outbuildings and replace with a single storey flat roof extension. Alterations to existing building including enlarging small first floor window to North West elevation and demolition of redundant external chimney (LB)

10/01343/FUL **Garages Cambridge Gardens, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Two storey building with rooms in roof, to provide 6x 2 bedroom affordable flats, with associated parking (CA)

10/01413/FUL **The Meeting House Little Mount Sion, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Part Retrospective - Relocation of cooling units (CA)

10/01134/HOUSE **Little Sponden Sponden Lane, Sandhurst**
- Remove existing rear sloping roof and replace with hipped roof; New hipped roof to existing rear dormer window; Single storey rear and side extension, garage/carport and fence and gate to entrance (LB)

10/01137/LBC **Little Sponden Sponden Lane, Sandhurst**
- Listed Building Consent - Remove existing rear sloping roof and replace with hipped roof; New hipped roof to existing rear dormer window; Single storey rear and side extension, garage/carport and fence and gate to entrance; Internal alterations (LB)

10/01099/HOUSE **2 Draper Mews Draper Street, Southborough North**
- Garden shed (CA)

10/01326/FUL **Bradleys (Speldhurst) Ltd Speldhurst Hill, Speldhurst**
- Proposed change of use of Grade 2 Listed mill to form three-bedroom house with mill machinery retained; Demolition of existing 20c retail, industrial, storage buildings and silos; Reduction of hard standing; Improvement to on site water management; Construction of two 2-bedroom flats, two 3-bedroom and three 4/5-bedroom houses with associated car parking, garaging and landscaping (PROW) (LB) (DEVPLN)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 08 May 2010

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

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Jaguar leaping out of the past

By **STEVE LOADER**

JAGUAR is going through a cathartic experience in its 75th anniversary year.

It has finally broken free from the success of the 1968 XJ6 model that doomed the brand to 40 years of seeking to recreate it with variations on the same styling.

It was what Jag fans kept telling it to do, but then their voices went missing – most had died and the Coventry firm decided it was time it was time to start listening to the voices inside.

First, we saw the transitional yet glorious XK Coupé and then came the radically different XF, replacing the fatally retro S-Type.

This month, Jag dealers get the all-new flagship XJ (from £53,800) building on the XF design language (right) and a resultant sales boom for the marque.

The new XJ (pictured above) is the most dramatic yet from Jag design chief Ian Callum and signals a complete break from the the outgoing XJ model – a great car, but saddled with the 'trad Jag' look that doomed the UK marque to fall behind its German rivals in the image stakes.

Callum has a mantra that Jaguar should be aware of its heritage, but not be slave to it.

"The new XJ is a thoroughly modern interpretation of the quintessential Jaguar. Its visual impact stems from the elongated teardrop shape of the car's side windows, that powerful stance and its wide track," he says.

It is an engineering tour de force too, with an all-aluminium body – 50 per cent recycled – available on a standard or long wheelbase.

There is even a powerful yet eco-friendly 3.0-litre V6 diesel option to defuse criticism from the green lobby.

It faces tough rivals in the director level luxury saloon market from the German triumvirate – the Audi A8, BMW 7-Series and Mercedes S-Class – but the Audi is possibly the only one that comes close to the big cat's blend of sporting ability and style plus real luxury.

Despite what traditionalists might say, it would probably have impressed Jaguar's visionary founder Sir William Lyons, who established Swallow Sidecars in 1922, and a range of 'SS' branded motorcycle sidecars and cars.

But when it came to the launch of the much grander all-new SS 100 in 1935, he chose a new and evocative name.

Jaguar followed with some of the world's most sporting cars: the late 1940s XK120, the C-Type and D-Type models that dominated 1950s motor racing, the elegant 1960s E-Type and two classic saloons of the same decade, the Mark II and original XJ.

Nevetheless, Jaguar could not escape merger in 1966 with the British Motor Corporation, which morphed into British Leyland – now a by-word for industrial strife of the period.

The marque appeared doomed to drown in BL's pool of confused brands and marketing, until spun off in 1984 as a Thatcher government privatisation.

It was a brave move, but Jaguar was really too small to survive alone and Ford bought it in 1989.

Despite a Ford-derived upsurge in quality and efficiency though, Jaguar's once impressive design touch seemed unable to woo buyers from apparently more sharp-suited German rivals.

With Ford itself suffering financial woes, Jaguar – along with Land Rover – was sold to Tata Motors of India in 2008.

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08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR ICE BLUE 4000 MILES £8995
08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 7000 MILES £8995
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06 56 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 19000 MILES £10495
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05 55 TIGRA 1-4 SPORT CABRIOLET BLACK LEATHER MANUAL 25000 MILES £7995

BMW

05 55 BMW 320 DIESEL ES 6 SPEED MANUAL ESTATE 5000 MILES ONLY £13995

FIAT

06 56 FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 1242CC 5DR AUTO PAS BLACK 16000 MILES £5995

FUSION & FIESTA

08 08 FUSION 1-6 ZETEC PLUS AUTO PAS 5DR STRATOS SILVER 3000 MILES £8995
07 57 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR/C BLUE 19000 MILES £7995
07 57 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR BLUE 1000 MILES £8995
07 07 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR GREEN 4000 MILES £8495
06 56 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR/C BLUE 13000 MILES £6995
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06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA ESTATE CAR AUTO PAS STAR SILVER 23000 MILES £7995
06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA AUTO ESTATE PAS AIR/C TONIC BLUE 18000 MILES £7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C STEEL GREY 12000 MILES £6995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES £6995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES £6995
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06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS 11000MLS £7495
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MONDEO

06 56 MONDEO 2-0 GHIA AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER METALLIC 23000 MILES £8995
06 56 MONDEO 2-0 LX AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SILVER METALLIC 24000 MILES £7995

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HONDA

07 07 HONDA JAZZ 1-4 SE AUTO PAS AIR/C METALLIC BLUE 11000 MILES £8495
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07 57NEW CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS BLUE 9000 MILES £9495
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CORSA

02 52 CORSA 1-0 ECO 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER £35 RTAX 39000 MILES £3695
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09 09 DAIHATSU MATERA 1-5 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C 1900 MILES £9995
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MAZDA

07 57 MAZDA 3 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SILVER 8000 MILES £10995
07 56 MAZDA 2 1-4S AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5DR MET BLUE 17000 MILES £5995
06 56 2 1-4 CAPELLA AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR MET BLUE 1900 MILES £6995
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06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SEA GREY 16000 MILES £8995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR MET BLUE 9000 MILES £8995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SEA GREY 21000 MILES £8995

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06 06 SUZUKI IGNIS 1-5 GL 5 DR AUTO PAS CATS EYES BLUE 15000 MILES £5995
05 55 SUZUKI SWIFT 1-3 GLX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR GREY 16000 MILES £7495
05 55 SUZUKI LIANNA 1-6 GLX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 51000 MILES £4995

KIA

08 58 KIA PICANTO 1-1 2 5DR AUTO PAS LIQUID SILVER 10000 MILES £7495
08 57 KIA PICANTO 1-1 ICE 5DR AUTO PAS BLUE AIR/C 9000 MILES £7495

HYUNDAI

08 58 HYUNDAI 1-4 GETZ AUTO PAS 5 DOOR SEA GREY 12000 MILES £7995
08 08 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS MET GREY 5000 MILES £6995
08 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS MET GREY 3000 MILES £6495
07 57 HYUNDAI ACCENT 3 DR ATLANTIC ALLOYS AUTO PAS 6000 MILES £6995
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS MET BLUE 5000 MILES £6495
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS YELLOW 9000 MILES £5995
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TOYOTA

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NISSAN

08 08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS BLADE SILVER 10000 MILES £8495
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08 08 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA R 5 DR AUTO PAS BLACK MET 2000 MILES £9995
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03 53 NISSAN TINO 1-8 S 5DR AUTO PAS BLUE AIR/C 32000 MILES £4495

MG ROVER

03 03 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION AUTO PAS AIR/C NIGHTFIRE RED 43000 MILES £2995

CHEVROLET

09 09 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 900 MILES £7995
09 58 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS ESTATE CAR 9000 MILES £7495
08 58 CHEVROLET AVEO LT AUTO PAS AIR/C TURQUOISE 1000 MILES £7995
08 58 CHEVROLET AVEO LT AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 7000 MILES £7995
08 58 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE AUTO PAS 5 DR BLUE 2000 MILES £6495
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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

New-found stardom

MERCEDES-Benz has chosen to bring its classic and rugged G-Class 4x4 back to the UK market after an absence of 10 years.

Though upgraded many times, the 'Geländewagen' (cross-country vehicle) has been around for 30 years and is still hand-built by the 4x4 specialists of Magna-Steyr in Austria.

But it is not the car's legendary off-road ability off that sparked its UK return – it has a huge reputation with the military globally – but more its elevation to 'celebmobile'.

Far classier than the ghastly Hummer – no tears shed here about the US brand's demise, I'm afraid – the G-Glass/G-Wagen's rise as a 4x4 status symbol has been helped by the usual M-B custom houses of AMG, Brabus and Lorinser and super-luxury upgrades by bespoke operators.

Prices start at £57,975 for a stripped down commercial version of the returnee, but the big seller is likely to be the 221bhp G 350 CDI (from £79,975) which averages around 25mpg. The 500bhp G 55 AMG flagship costs £114,975.

Best-selling Fiesta receives upgrade

SAFETY and powertrain upgrades are part of the first significant makeover for the latest Ford Fiesta – Britain's best-selling car.

Most notable is that all newly-ordered Fiestas come with electronic stability programme (ESP) as standard, bringing the supermini in line with larger Fords – ESP previously cost around £300.

CO2 emissions have been cut on three petrol engines: the 1.25-litre by 4g to 129g – resulting in an annual road tax saving of £110; the1.6-litre by 3g to 107g; and the sporty 1.6-litre Ti-VCT by 5g to 134g.

Specifications have also been enhanced generally – flagship Titanium models now have £200 of Bluetooth and USB connectivity as standard. The Fiesta holds 8.6 per cent share of the UK motor market.

Ampera to re-charge hybrid sector?

VAUXHALL and its parent General Motors may transform the hybrid sector of the motor market with a family size model using a totally different type of powertrain.

The car's name, Ampera, gives a clue to why it is different; billed as an "extended-range electric vehicle", it delivers up to 40 miles of pure electric driving before an on-board engine generator kicks in to sustain the battery and extend the range by more than 300 miles.

This contrasts with existing hybrids from Honda and Toyota and planned by Peugeot, which use electric and internal combustion motors in partnership.

The Ampera's battery can also be charged by plugging the vehicle into a standard household outlet to save on running costs.

The Ampera is expected in UK showrooms by early 2012.

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Banger bargains are back

CHEAP AS CHIPS: Despite Scrappage taking many old cars off the roads there are still some good deals about such as this Peugeot 206 (left) spotted at auction and a late 90s Nissan Primera

by **STEVELOADER**

WAS Scrappage a good thing? It rescued a few car dealers and saved some motor industry jobs in the recession, but regular readers will know I had my doubts about it.

Some good cars went into the crusher in return for a £2,000 handout off a new car, but many of those buyers might have gained an even bigger discount if they had gone in and haggled.

Fact is, mainstream carmakers' list prices are mostly works of fiction comparable with those of Messrs Grimm and Anderson, pitched high in case people come into the showroom with a bolshie mindset or high expectations of what their old pile of junk is worth.

True, Scrappage, did take some awful gas guzzlers and polluters off the road, but I rather suspect the worst examples are still out there driven by people too hard up to contemplate trading up.

Their plight has been made worse by the fact that some of the 10 or more year-old replacements they might bought, have been crushed in return for a two grand handout.

The loss of those scrapped cars – some good, some bad – along with a shortage of cars never bought due to the recession and therefore unable to filter through to the second-hand market, means that used car prices have rocketed across the board at the worst possible time for many poorer motorists.

But online motor guru Honest John reckons the end of Scrappage means that many late 1990s models are emerging onto the used car market at more sensible prices.

He said after attending a major car auction a few days ago: "There were plenty of bargains to be had, which is great news for motorists who are on a tight budget, but still want a decent set of wheels.

"For example, a 2000W Peugeot 206 1.4LX 3 door went for £650 – £300 below the listed trade price and a solid 97R Nissan Primera with 57,000 miles on the clock sold for just £350. The Peugeot 206 was bought by two girls without any assistance from a bloke.

"What this sale told me was that the Scrappage scheme did a good job – but it didn't wipe out late 1990s cars.

"That means used buyers who don't have much money to spend will still be able to find a car that meets their budget. And that is crucial to keep Britain motoring.

"Fuel prices are sky-high so anything that can be done to keep motoring costs down has to be a good thing for the UK economy.

"Sadly the public transport infrastructure – outside of major cities – is still very weak and therefore people need a vehicle to be able to get to work, get to the shops, support family, etc."

Honest John's top tips at auction:

- Give cars you're interested in a good once-over in the auction yard
- Look for signs of a repaint (spray dust, over-bright paint, rubbing compound, tide marks under rubber trim strips)
- Check for matching shut-lines, especially between the bonnet and wings and front wings and doors.
- Crouch in front of the car and look along the sides for ripples
- Check tyres for uneven wear
- When the engine is started, look for excessive smoke from the exhaust, and ask the yard boy how much clutch it has left.

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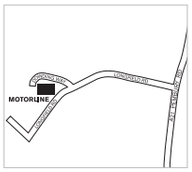

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Vehicle shown is Captiva 2.0 VCDi LT 7-seat at £23,605, metallic paint available at an extra cost of £400. Offer available to business users only for orders received before 05.07.10. Figures shown are based on a non-maintenance contract hire package for the bailment of goods over 36 months, assuming a maximum of 10,000 contract miles per annum. An advance payment equal to 3 monthly payments is payable followed by £249.99 monthly payments commencing Month Two. An excess mileage charge plus VAT applies if the contract mileage is exceeded. For full terms and conditions please refer to the Chevrolet Leasing Master Agreement. All quotations are subject to availability, status, acceptance and agreement and guarantees may be required. Terms are unavailable to existing customers where specific end-user terms are in place with Chevrolet Leasing. All rentals are quoted exclusive of VAT which is payable at the prevailing rate. Quotation correct at time of going to print. Sample quotation is given subject to there being no changes in manufacturer list price. Vehicles shown are for illustration purposes only. For full specification and details contact your local retailer, before placing an order. Chevrolet Leasing does not offer tax advice to individuals and recommends that all company car drivers consult their accountant with regards to their particular tax position. No monetary alternative available from Chevrolet Leasing. Contract hire by ALD Automotive Ltd., trading as Chevrolet Leasing, Oakwood Park, Lodge Causeway, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 3JA. ALD Automotive Ltd. is incorporated in the UK and regulated by the Financial Services Authority in respect of general insurance products. (Chev92332)

Official Government Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Captiva 2.0 VCDi LT 7-seat: Urban – 31.7 (8.9), Extra-Urban – 42.8 (6.6), Combined – 38.2 (7.4). CO_2 emissions 197g/km.

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05 05 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 ZEST 2, 3 door hatchback, finished in silver with matching upholstery, remote central locking, sunroof and air conditioning, cd radio with remote, electric windows and mirrors, only 2 former keepers.......**£4995**

05 05 KIA PICANTO 1.4 AUTOMATIC
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02 52 Peugeot 206 CC
Finished in Aegean metallic blue with contrasting black leather interior. Alloy wheels. air conditioning, ABS, EW, electric folding roof and very rare SP kit fitted. Beautiful condition throughout................. .... **£5495**

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07 57 Citroen C3 Cool 5dr.
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09 59 Nissan Pixo 1.0 n-tec. Our demonstrator, very low mileage, economical to run and £35 a year to tax but full of features including, power steering, air conditioning with pollen filter, CD/ Radio, EFW, remote central locking, front & side airbags, ABS **£7495**

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07 07 Citroen Picasso HDI MPV,
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08 08 Citroen Berlingo M-SP VTR 1.6 16v,
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05 55 Nissan Murano 3.5 CVT.
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04 04 Nissan 350Z,
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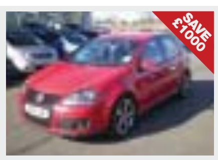

05 05 Volkswagen Golf 2.0GTi Automatic 5dr, A fabulous drive with many features including 17" alloys, climate control, front foglights, electric windows all round, electric/heated wing mirrors, radio/CD with 10 speakers.............**£10995**

09 59 Peugeot 308 1.6 HDI S 5dr
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09 58 Qashqai 1.6 Acenta
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10 59 Peugeot 407 2.0 HDI Sport Saloon,
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Meek and mild Peugeot lion roars a change of mindset

DrivingReview

by STEVELOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Peugeot 3008

FOR a brand with the lion as its logo, Peugeot was a bit of a pussycat in the late Noughties.

It was short of headline-grabbing models and sister brand Citroën – which Peugeot rescued from oblivion in the 1970s – was allowed to take all the glory with its trendy cars and Picasso MPVs.

But now the lion is roaring about its bicentenary, ambitious plans to leap from 10th to seveth in global production rankings within two years, and the imminent launch of a stunning halo car the RCZ Coupé.

Even the lion badge has a new burnished design, but the pivotal moment in this revival was the launch of the 3008 crossover (from £16,695) last year – a brilliant riposte to the incredibly successful Nissan Qashqai.

I reckon the Nissan's styling and driving experience is still the sharper and there is the option of the stretched seven-seater and full 4x4 if you really must.

But the 3008's interior packaging and stowage is clever and Peugeot's new quality cabins – with its chrome and alloy detailing, this one wouldn't disgrace a Mercedes – is another plus.

The best feature is the two-part tailgate; the lift-up section allows easy loading of light items, while the lower half enables big stuff to slide in while doubling as 'grandstand' seating at outdoor events or camping.

The normal position of the removable boot floor is flush with the folded seats for carrying those big cargoes, but you can raise it with seats in place to split your boot load, or take it out for an extra deep space.

There is even a detachable and rechargeable torch that doubles as one of the boot lights when in situ, while the seat back releases are readily accessible from the boot when grappling with a big item and needing to quickly flop a rear seat down. Rear legroom is not massive, but the front seatbacks are scalloped for the knees of those behind and the flat cabin floor affords leg space for the middle passenger.

The big talking point though is the head-up display (pictured above) with speed and distance alert, as fitted to flagship Exclusive models like our smooth and classy 110bhp 1.6-litre diesel (£20,595).

I reckon this display is not hugely expensive for carmakers, so I expect it to become mainstream quickly.

However, even a braking distance zealot like me kept straying inside the safe margin with the car in front and it makes you wonder whether our crowded roads could cope with everyone adhering to the 'keep your distance' mantra.

Standard fit on the Exclusive is a panoramic roof with electric sunblind; the 3008's cabin is light and airy anyway, but this feature is an all-round enlightening experience.

And so to the much discussed optional Grip Control, Peugeot's alternative to the all-wheel drive clout that you can have – at a price – on the Qashqai and new rivals like the Skoda Yeti and Hyundai ix35.

Effectively, Grip Control is sophisticated traction control for the front driving wheels, with various terrain settings via a simple centre console dial.

I would have been cynical had I not watched it demonstrated by Peugeot using a 3008 as an improvised glider launcher – see carsforkent.co.uk Motors TV.

At £450 it's also a lot cheaper than a 4x4 equivalent, although Peugeot will no doubt contradict itself when it launches a proposed hybrid 3008, with a diesel for the front wheels and electric power driving the rear.

While you might forego Grip Control though, I advise you not to do the same for Dynamic Roll Control – omitted from lesser models in the 3008 range. This overcomes the car's relatively high riding position and soft suspension and delivers a taut driving experience to challenge the Qashqai and Yeti.

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DrivingPortfolio

PEUGEOT 3008 EXCLUSIVE HDI 110
£20,595

Driving appeal	★★★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★
Value	★★★★
Running costs	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★
How green?	★★★★
Road tax	£90/year (zero in year one)
Best rival	Nissan Qashqai

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: the 3008's rather blobby styling against the rather more rakish Nissan Qashqai

NOT SURE: that the optional Grip Control is a true substitute for 4x4 – though it is cheaper

REALLY LIKE: bravery of the 3008 concept, showing Peugeot advancing boldly into its third century

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09	09	Agila Club A/c	1.2	5	Atlanta blue	6,350	7,995
09	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlanta Blue	Del mileage	9,995
09	09	Agila Club A/c	1.2	5	Steel silver	4,250	7,995
09	59	Agila Club CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlanta Blue	2,950	8,995
09	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Lemon Grass	1,350	9,495
09	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Moroccan Blue	1,266	9,495
09	59	Agila Club CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	3,900	9,495
10	59	Agila Design	1.2	5	Lemon Grass	2,790	8,995

ASTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
01	51	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	78,350	2,995
07	07	Astra Design Auto Estate	1.8	5	Silver lightening	22,190	7,495
07	07	Astra Sri Sports hatch X pack	1.6	3	Flame red	29,810	9,995
07	07	Astra Club Auto	1.8	5	Panacotta	30,350	6,995
07	57	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Arden blue	25,000	13,995
07	57	Astra Sri CDTi X Pack	1.9D	5	Ultra blue	17,325	9,995
08	08	Astra Sri	1.8	5	Black sapphire	20,100	9,495
08	08	Astra Design CDTi Auto	1.9D	5	Star silver	22,200	9,995
08	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	24,300	9,695
08	58	Astra Sri CDTi X Pack	1.9D	3	Star silver	10,100	12,995
08	58	Astra Sri Ex Pack	1.8	3	Black sapphire	5,960	11,995
09	09	Astra Club	1.4	5	Silver lightening	18,218	9,495
09	09	Astra Sri CDTi X Pack	1.9D	5	Star silver	9,710	14,995
09	59	Astra Active	1.6	5	Sovereign silver	4,780	10,995
09	59	Astra Sxi eco flex	1.7D	5	Sovereign silver	3,400	12,995

CORSA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	06	Corsa Sxi +	1.2	3	Flame Red	57,600	4,995
07	07	Corsa Design	1.4	3	Tea Green	17,620	4,995
07	57	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Star Silver	37,900	11,495
08	08	Corsa Breeze E/T	1.2	3	Flame Red	10,125	7,195
09	09	Corsa Active	1.0	5	Star Silver	6,270	7,995
09	09	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Metro Blue	19,970	8,495
10	59	Corsa Active	1.0	3	Flame red	Delivery	7,995
10	59	Corsa Active	1.2	5	Ultra Blue	Delivery	8,995
09	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Silver Lightening	800	10,995
09	59	Corsa Sxi A/c X pack	1.4	3	Black Sapphire	10,150	10,995

INSIGNIA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
09	09	Insignia Tourer Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	9,300	13,995
09	09	Insignia SE CDTi Nav	2.0	4	Technical grey	19,826	14,995
09	09	Insignia Sri CDTi	2.0	5	Satr silver	24,545	14,995
09	09	Insignia SE (160ps)	2.0	5	Star silver	18,985	14,995
09	59	Insignia Sri Nav CDTi	2.0	4	Black sapphire	7,350	17,995

MERIVA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	56	Meriva Life A/C	1.4	5	Steel blue	19,730	6,295

TIGRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
07	07	Tigra Exclusive Red	1.4	2	Metro blue	32,500	8,995
09	59	Tigra Air	1.4	2	Antigua	4,425	12,995

VECTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	56	Vectra Life CDTi Sat Nav	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	27,800	6,995
08	08	Vectra Design	1.8	4	Panacotta	25,050	8,695
08	08	Vectra Exclusiv CDTi + pack	1.9D	5	Silver lightening	41,700	8,795
09	58	Vectra Exclusive CDTi	1.9D	5	Silver	18,325	9,995
08	58	Vectra Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	15,390	8,995

ZAFIRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
05	05	Zafira Design CDTi Auto	2.0	5	Star silver	53,000	6,995
06	06	Zafira Active	1.8	5	Metro blue	38,050	7,495
07	07	Zafira Energy	1.6	5	Silver lightening	19,400	8,495
07	07	Zafira Energy	1.6	5	Black sapphire	28,320	7,995
08	58	Zafira Exclusive	1.6	5	Star silver	13,700	9,995
09	59	Zafira Design CDTi	1.9	5	Panacotta	2,200	17,495

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159, JTDM 16v Lusso, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, blue, 10000 miles, £15000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

159, JTDM 16v Lusso, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, blue, 10000 miles, £15000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, JTDM 16v Lusso, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, blue, 10000 miles, £15000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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BRERA, JTDM (210), 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, red, 22250 miles, £15000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

GT, JDTm, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black metallic, 54000 miles, £8825, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

GT, JDTm, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black metallic, 54000 miles, £8825, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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AUDI

A2, FSI SPORT, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, black, 39000 miles, £6500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A2, FSI SPORT, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, black, 39000 miles, £6500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A2, FSI SPORT, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, black, 39000 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, S Tronic, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking, black, 14000 miles, £13000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 T FSi Sport, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags, blue, 37483 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, T FSI Sport S Tronic, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid, grey, 12313 miles, £16500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 TDi 170 QUATTRO, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking, meteor grey, 23009 miles, £16000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, TDI SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 84350 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 TDi 170 QUATTRO, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking, meteor grey, 23009 miles, £16000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, T FSI Sport S Tronic, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid, grey, 12313 miles, £16500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

TT, QUATTRO AUTO, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player multi cd player leather interior multiple airbags power steering sound pack sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, grey, 18490 miles, £21000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

TT, V6 Quattro DSG, 2003, blue, 53900 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

TT, T Quattro (225), 2000, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag, green, 40085 miles, £9500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

TT, V6 Quattro DSG, 2003, blue, 53900 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

TT, T Quattro (225), 2000, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag, green, 40085 miles, £9500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

TT, QUATTRO AUTO, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows mp3 player multi cd player leather interior multiple airbags power steering sound pack sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, grey, 18490 miles, £21000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

TT, V6 COUPE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint leather interior power steering reverse parking aid traction control trip computer remote central locking, silver with grey leather, 17000 miles, £19390, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

TT, QUATTRO AUTO, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player multi cd player leather interior multiple airbags power steering sound pack sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, grey, 18490 miles, £21000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

TT, V6 Quattro DSG, 2003, blue, 53900 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

TT, T Quattro (225), 2000, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag, green, 40085 miles, £9500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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AZURE CONV AUTO SAT NAV, 25225188, full leather, satellite navigation, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, centre armrest, electric seats, head restraints, heated seats, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, rear armrest, adjustable steering column, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, parking sensor, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, brake assist, multiple airbags, quick-clear screen, colour coded body, front fog lamps, headlamp jetwash, metallic paintwork, rain-sensing wipers, xenon headlamps, auto-dip rearview, electric mirrors, electric windows, power hood, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, stereo, at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in one place. visit our website for even more details. we are open 7 days a week and easily located off the m25, m26 and a20. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, silverlake blue, 19373 miles, £119000, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

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1 SERIES, 118d Sport 5dr, mf07faj, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, height adjustable seat, sports seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, rear spoiler, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, stereo, m sport bodykit, sport alloys. at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in one place. visit our website for even more details. we are open 7 days a week and easily located off the m25, m26 and a20. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, black, 0 miles, £8494, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i SE 5dr, lb57gxd, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, stereo, at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in one place. visit our website for even more details. we are open 7 days a week and easily located off the m25, m26 and a20. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, black, 23302 miles, £11997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 120 i M SPORT, av05grx, abs, immobiliser, alarm, central locking, power steering, air conditioning, climate control, cruise control, stereo, electric windows, cd player, stability control, adjustable steering column, sports seats, rear headrests, anti-theft system, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, height adjustable seat, traction control, trip computer, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, m sport bodykit, sport alloys. at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in one place. visit our website for even more details. we are open 7 days a week and easily located off the m25, m26 and a20. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, black, 0 miles, £6388, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 325 M SPORT, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit central locking climate control drivers airbag metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags trip computer twin airbags, blue, 51000 miles, £14650, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 320d SE, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid traction control trip computer remote central locking, silver, 76698 miles, £7080, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 320 SE i, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, grey, 71500 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 320D SE, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid tinted glass traction control trip computer spotlights remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, silver, 42000 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 320d SE, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid, grey, 25004 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 318i ci auto, 2001, topaz blue metallic, 0 miles, £4950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 330msport diesel manual, 2002, green metallic with black sport leather, 103000 miles, £5950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CITROEN

C1, 1.4, 2008, cd player central locking electric windows, red, 50 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, silver, 50 miles, £10990, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, black, 50 miles, £10980, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, cd player central locking electric windows, red, 50 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C1, Vibe, 2008, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering remote central locking, red metallic, 14500 miles, £5500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, red, 55 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C1, Rhythm, 2006, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, red, 22059 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, red, 55 miles, £11100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FORD

KA, i, 2006, abs brakes central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering, metallic blue, 33600 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, Collection (70), 2004, cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, silver, 52399 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2008, cd player drivers airbag front fog lights metallic paint, blue, 50 miles, £14550, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2008, cd player immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £14550, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights metallic paint multiple airbags power steering, blue, 15 miles, £9500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2008, blue, 12 miles, £9500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2008, blue, 13 miles, £9500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2008, blue, 13 miles, £9500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i, 2006, cd player central locking drivers airbag full service history immobiliser power steering twin airbags, colorado red, 31788 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, Collection, 2003, cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser trip computer, non standard colour, 38000 miles, £2500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KA, Studio (70), 2007, abs brakes cd player drivers airbag immobiliser power steering, red, 32090 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KA, I, 1999, blue, 57000 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

Ka, 1.3 COLLECTION, 2002, central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering twin airbags, black, 51000 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KA, Zetec, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser mp3 player multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer curtain airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection), blue, 505 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

Ka, i, 2006, abs brakes central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering, metallic blue, 33600 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, Collection (70), 2004, cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, silver, 52399 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2008, cd player drivers airbag front fog lights metallic paint, blue, 50 miles, £14550, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2008, cd player immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £14550, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights metallic paint multiple airbags power steering, blue, 15 miles, £9500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2008, blue, 12 miles, £9500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, Club, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windowstrip computer twin airbags remote central locking, ultra blue, 18000 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, Eco Club with AC, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points, air blue, 18000 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, Club CDTI, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, ultra blue, 16500 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, Club CDTI, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points, air blue, 26000 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, 16V Life, 2006, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, blue, 31598 miles, £5500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, 1.4 design, 2008, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black, 12057 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, 1.2 16v Design, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player trip computer twin airbags isofix child seat points, blue, 16098 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, SXI, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows fmetallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, silver lightning, 8000 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, 1.4 SXi 5dr (AC), 2008, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, silver, 10071 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

CORSA, 16V Elegance, 2003, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, silver, 39694 miles, £5200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, SXI, 2003, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser power steering split folding rear seats sports seats twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, blue, 63300 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, Club, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points, ultra blue, 26000 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

DON'T miss our fascinating Big Interview with the head of a Tunbridge Wells firm that is little known in the UK but starting to make waves globally. We also have an insight into the asparagus business and how one Kent farmer was in at the start – he's got no time for the supermarkets, though. And a brave new Kent rail venture says 'you can keep your high-speed rail link, because we're launching with a brand new locomotive that's much more interesting – it's steam-powered'.

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Jobs picture brighter, but new Government is urged to take care

NEW findings from the leading UK jobs survey show a continuing upward trend in line with Kent and the country's slow emergence from recession, ***writes Steve Loader***.

But the jobs rise shown by the Report on Jobs from the Recruitment and Employment Confederation (REC) and KPMG, showed a slighter slower growth pattern for April against March, and there have already been calls for the new Government to nurture the market carefully.

Growth was steady, though, across permanent and temporary vacancies, suggesting underlying confidence in the business sector and the trend in the permanent vacancies market was only just weaker than February's 31-month high.

However, the report's revelation of accelerated pay growth added a mixed message: a willingness by companies to pay a little more to get the staff they feel they really need for the recovery countered by the worry that this will damage the need for wage restraint as the country rebuilds and also push up inflation – April's rate was the sharpest since March, 2008.

Temporary/contract staff hourly pay rates in particular increased during the month at the fastest pace for just over two years.

REC chief executive Kevin Green said: "May's Report on Jobs highlights continued growth in both temporary and permanent employment, although the rate of growth has slowed slightly compared with previous months.

"The first test of the new administration will be to nurture the slowly improving but fragile jobs market.

"The incoming Government must address two immediate priorities – stimulating jobs growth and reducing expenditure without creating a public sector recession through shedding thousands of posts. Private sector employers have used short-time work, sabbaticals and pay freezes as a means of reducing costs while retaining high-performing staff. Innovative resourcing strategies will be equally crucial within the public sector."

KPMG spokesman Bernard Brown said: "The latest figures show the UK jobs market is continuing on the road to recovery, albeit at a slower pace than the previous month.

"While the UK's gradual emergence from recession is starting to lead to better job prospects in the private sector, many public sector employers have finally woken up to the scale of the financial challenge that is coming their way.

"It is now becoming increasingly clear that the long-predicted public sector recession has started to hit the jobs market and therefore the upwards trend we have seen over the last couple of months may come to a halt."

High praise after Olympia job

SPECIALIST painting contractor S Lucas of Sevenoaks has been highly commended by the Painting and Decorating Association for the mammoth job of repainting the Grand Hall at Olympia in London.

The company's spray-painting team had just a few weeks last July and August to complete the work during a break in the busy exhibition centre schedule, and the task included ornate Victorian steelwork soaring up to 135ft above ground under a vast glass roof, making working conditions even hotter at the height of the summer.

Industry nomination for chemist success story

MAIDSTONE-based pharmacy chain Paydens has been shortlisted for an industry award in its 40th anniversary year.

Representatives from the group, which has about 100 pharmacies across Kent and the South East, will now go to London on June 9 to discover whether it has landed the coveted Retailer of the Year prize at the 2010 awards organised by retail pharmacy magazine Chemist+Druggist.

The company has been a success story in an era dominated by major chains and continues to add about four new pharmacies each year, with each Paydens aiming for a unique identity and stocking products most relevant to their local base.

Paydens marketing manager Natalie Pay said: "We attribute our success to a combination of the buying power and stability of a multiple with the local, community feel of a family-run, independent.

"Our customers are people, not numbers. We also encourage pharmacies to get involved in community and charity events."

BUSINESS WEEK

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Comment ...

IT'S fair to say that the business sector in Kent had a bluish tinge in the run up to the election, but the actual colour of Government now matters little.

Fact is, UK PLC is in such a state that it is now less about what the winning party stands for traditionally and more about whether it has the lightness of touch to lead us out of the mire (that's the polite word).

Sure, there's been rhetoric about cuts, taxes, clearing the deficit, etc, but the word Kent business wants to hear is 'confidence'.

Slash and burn in the public sector will lower overheads, but means more state benefits for the resultant jobless and fewer consumers spending wages in the private sector.

Likewise, a national insurance or VAT hike will just stall a fragile recovery made to look even worse by the growth and assurance seen in our neighbours and rivals.

There's no suggestion a new Government should sit on its hands though, in the hope that things will turn out all right.

That will send out the worst possible message to the City and money markets and won't look good when this approach leads, inevitably, to a ticking off from the IMF as it makes us squirm for a handout.

But, for all the pre-election slogans, soundbites, spin and TV showbiz debates, what the country needs is a sense of direction without tugging on the reins.

The message I hear continually is: make it easier for us to do business and employ people and we will get ourselves and the country out of the mess.

Not give us tax rebates, grants or funny money for doing daft things; or even let's build houses on playgrounds, but just slash the bureaucracy and let us get on with the job.

It doesn't sound unreasonable and the new incumbents shouldn't find it difficult to make those careful tweaks. But don't politicians always make it look and sound like hard work?

STEVE LOADER, BUSINESS EDITOR

To view, search 'Business' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Julie Maddocks on KOS Media's brand new B2B media option, incorporating the complete multi media mix. Business Week – a fresh approach to business.

There's one clear winner

WIDESPREAD winter damage to Kent roads had been good news for one household name – Autoglass. The vehicle glass repair and replacement firm is seeking 26 new mobile technicians to cope with soaring demand after the worst winter in 25 years. Callouts are up due to windscreens cracking under pressure from jolting by appalling road surfaces or through chipping from loose tarmac.

Travel group staff on top of the world

BALDWINS Travel Group is celebrating being voted National Travel Agent of the Year.

The independent Kent chain – with sites in Sevenoaks (as Sevenoaks Travel), Maidstone, Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge – landed the prize at the annual Agent Achievement Awards in London.

In addition, the company again won Travel Agent of the Year for London and South East – it has held this four times before and been runner-up seven times – and was also runner-up National Cruise Agent of the Year.

The awards are made after nominations and votes from key players in the UK holiday business.

Baldwins Travel partner and business development director Nick Marks said the agency's success this year was down to hard work by its experienced and knowledgeable staff.

"You could say we're on top of the world in more ways than one. Winning the award is a spectacular achievement and being recognised by our peers in the travel industry is a real honour."

The group was established in 1895, has an annual turnover of £16 million and employs 43 staff.

The post-recession rebuild has crucial role for the young

IN THE final analysis of damage done by the recession, we may rue the cost to the morale of young people prevented from getting onto the jobs ladder, ***writes Steve Loader***.

That's the view of Cllr Kevin Lynes, Kent County Council's cabinet member for regeneration and economic development.

He raised it at the Kent 2020 Vision business show at Detling, Maidstone, and elaborated further to Business Week while championing KCC's ambitious new apprentice scheme.

Speaking from long experience in running his own businesses – he started an estate agency aged just 24 – Cllr Lynes said the recession had underlined a well-known fact: "When times get hard, the easiest thing and biggest item when you look to cut down on outgoings is staff.

"But one thing I learned is that when you lose people it is only a few months later that you realise how much you are missing business they would have created.

"It can be a false economy, as can the 'last in, first out' approach to redundancy. What that does is play havoc with any succession planning in a business."

And the vibrancy and fresh thinking of young apprentices and graduate interns was a recurring theme at Kent 2020, he noted, when he also used the evening dinner to make an impassioned plea for business heads to consider taking on these keen and enthusiastic recruits.

He admitted apprenticeships and similar schemes had earned a bad name over the years on both sides: with the youngsters themselves after being given mundane tasks – often derided as 'gradmin' – while firms had hated the bureaucracy they endured just to help a youngster get work experience.

But KCC, with the original impetus from leader Cllr Paul Carter, had taken a fresh look at apprenticeships and slashed red tape, and already has 700 summer school leavers registered on its website info@kentapprentices.com.

Now he is asking Kent businesses to play their part and become more actively involved in getting the most out of the young person. He said: "It's not a free ride. You have to be as dedicated in imparting your knowledge as they are about learning.

"In previous years the sheer bureaucracy of getting on these schemes put people off. In the KCC apprenticeship scheme we have tried to make it as simple as possible, with little paperwork."

KEVIN LYNES: Making a clarion call

Cllr Lynes used Kent 2020 to introduce a recruit to the KCC apprentice scheme. Keith Jackson, who works in management at the council's Oakwood House conference centre in Maidstone spoke eloquently to 2020 delegates.

"And he's not on his own," said Cllr Lynes. "There's a lot like him and they just need a bit of time and investment."

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BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

FIRMS in Kent aiming to ride the wave of eco-awareness have been forewarned by Which? of a possible a wipeout.

The consumer watchdog highlighted that 80 per cent of people are sceptical of green credentials, and expert research commissioned into products found that many were makingt suspect claims, dubbed 'greenwash' by Which?.

A spokesman said: "When companies make clear green claims, it helps consumers make choices with confidence. But our experts concluded that many of the companies did not provide enough evidence to back up their claims and thought some were exaggerated. This makes it hard for people to choose."

The prime targets of the Which? Report were toilet cleaners, laundry tablets, nappies and eco wipes, but the organisation also noted dubious claims in products including so-called green cars, irons and kettles.

FORMER Threshers off-licence franchisee Kevin Howell refused to heed the sound of breaking glass as the parent chain and its associates crashed last October.

Instead, he has re-launched his store at 112 High Street, Hythe, as an independent entity One One Two Wines – declared open this weekend by the Mayor of Hythe, Cllr Keren Belcourt.

Mr Howell said: "I've been trading in Hythe for 20 years and this is the third name over the door. At no point since Threshers informed me their business was in administration did I think of closing. Hythe is a great place to run a business and I've had lots of support from customers and fellow traders."

He celebrated his brave new venture with a tasting session for customers old and new, and said: "The new range contains many wines from smaller producers, malt whiskies from the Benromach distillery, and a growing range of local beers."

IF YOU'RE fast on your feet, it's not too late to join a speed networking event, the business equivalent of speed dating and a chance to make good business contacts fast.

It is free and being held by the Kent Enterprise Trust charity on Tuesday, from 5-7pm, at Kent Enterprise House, Herne Bay.

Trust marketing manager Rebecca Smith said: "This should be a light-hearted and fun way for local businesses to share ideas, make connections and expand their skills. No more sitting shyly in the corner…"

To book contact Helen Connelly on 01227 844544 or via email through h.connelly@enterprisetrust.org.

LAW firm Cripps Harries Hall has named The College of Law as the exclusive provider of professional courses for its trainee solicitors.

From September, future recruits to the practice, with its headquarters in Tunbridge Wells, will study the college's graduate diploma in law, legal practice course and professional skills course.

Cripps Harries Hall, which has 39 partners, was recently named in the Sunday Times 100 Best Companies To Work For 2010 and spokesman Jim Fennell said: "Cripps is committed to the training and development of its trainee solicitors and we believe that partnering with a long standing, highly respected law college will add value to our training programme. We recruit up to eight trainee solicitors a year and this relationship will also give us further contact with our future trainees."

A College of Law spokesman said: "We are keen to strengthen our links with the legal community in the South further by forming similar partnerships with other firms."

World of difference

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

VISIT Kent has elaborated on a scheme expected to generate millions in extra revenue for the county's tourism industry, its attractions and businesses.

Headline details of Greet The World were unveiled at the Kent 2020 Vision Business Expo, but the overall project was mapped out this week.

It will capitalise on sporting and cultural events over the next three years, such as the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Margate's Turner Contemporary launch, and the new No.1 Smithery at the Historic Dockyard, Chatham.

The project will also develop a common identity with Kent's cross-Channel neighbour in France, Nord-Pas de Calais, creating a single tourism destination where visitors can easily move from one area from the other, offering visitors two cultures, languages and experiences.

Greet the World is aided by a near three million euros EU donation to the tourism industry of Kent and its European neighbours, secured on this side of the Channel by Visit Kent in partnership with Kent County Council and also involving French, Belgian and Dutch tourism bodies.

Visit Kent and KCC plus the French Nord-Pas de Calais and Nord tourist departments will work specifically on Greet the World, which involves:

- A new website linking the cross-Channel site and the partners' own marketing website.
- Publicity campaign around major cultural and sporting events.
- Joint support of a campaign to welcome the Olympic torch.
- Training for tourism industry professionals to improve their product knowledge, customer care and green credentials.
- A Kent Greeters' network whereby residents engage directly with visitors about their area.
- A Welcome the World hospitality guide for tourism businesses.
- The Big Day Out, encouraging residents to explore the area they live in.

CHALK AND SAND: One of the stunning tourism posters commissioned by Visit Kent

Visit Kent chairwoman Amanda Cottrell said: "The team has worked hard to gain the support of the industry in Kent. We are delighted that after two years in the making, Greet the World has come to fruition. We are proud of the achievements of all our industry partners and look forward to putting our plans into action."

Cllr Kevin Lynes, KCC's cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, said: "We're looking to capitalise on cultural and sporting developments over the next three years through a range of actions, including tourism campaigns and a more interactive website.

Amanda Cottrell

"We will bring people on board as champions for their community, showcase events benefiting residents and enlist the help of local people to promote attractions and the coast to visitors."

It has been quite a year for Visit Kent, which landed the Destination Marketing Organisation of the Year award at the 2010 UKinbound Convention in February.

Ms Cottrell said: "This is the culmination of years of work by a dedicated team which has enabled us to build up excellent contacts and relationships with key partners."

Car crime fight takes off

FEW things are more dispiriting and disrupting than having your car stolen, but Broadstairs-based Skytag claims to be leading a renewed fight against car crime.

It believes it is the first UK company to offer a low cost, affordable stolen vehicle location service. Until launching Skytag, monitored GPS tracking systems were an expensive luxury available only to the high-end market.

TRACKER: Affordable GPS location

But new technology and falling component costs mean there is now an option for anyone who values their vehicle and its contents.

Skytag MD Guy Topsom said: "Most insurance settlements don't fully cover the cost of replacement and certainly won't cover any additions to the vehicle, such as wheels, in-car entertainment, sat nav or even your designer sunglasses."

The firm also makes the point that 85 per cent of vehicles stolen are as a result of a theft or burglary, specifically to obtain the keys, enabling the thief to quickly disable the immobiliser and alarm on most vehicles.

Mr Topsom and his colleagues claim to have created a more sophisticated and cheaper system in advance of established tracker systems and allowing a vehicle's position to be pinpointed to within a few feet anywhere in the UK and Europe.

If a Skytagged car disappears off the owner's drive, he reports it to the police and gets a crime number, forwards this to Skytag's 24-hour crime team, which establishes the vehicle's position.

Skytag then relays the position, speed and direction and a web link to the police so they can see for themselves exactly where the vehicle is. It can then be tracked in real time, allowing the police to position vehicles and reduce the chance of a high-speed chase.

And the police will act, said Mr Topsom: "Why would they turn down the opportunity to recover a stolen vehicle and most likely nick the thieves at the same time?"

Skytag has also been appointed as official partners for the Peking to Paris rally in September, providing detailed tracking of the vehicles through some of the world's toughest terrain.

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Carsten Brinkschulte's CV

- 1991 – joins Apple as a software engineer/developer after graduating from Berlin University. Some time spent working at Apple HQ in California and on the groundbreaking but ultimately unsuccessful Newton message pad.
- 1997 – in Germany, more software development work at SAP, a global leader in big company logistics, warehousing management and payroll.
- 2000 – starts his own company in Berlin and launches ill-fated high-end mobile messaging/email system.
- 2003 – co-founds Synchronica in Germany with wife and current company's chief operating officer Nicole Meissner, to develop mobile messaging for budget phones.
- 2005 – sells company, which relocates to the UK at Bodiam. Continues as chief technology officer working from Berlin.
- 2006 – asked to step in and relaunch the company after it crashes. Relocates to UK and moves the company to Tunbridge Wells for better communications links. Rapid growth and expansion to the present.

Developing a conversation with billions

Britain's mobile phone and computer market appears to be cutting edge. News in the sector is dominated by debates such as the iPhone versus BlackBerry for email, and whether Apple's new iPad can revolutionise computing.
It's all lost on most of the world's population though – they simply cannot afford it – but they want everything our fancy smart hones and PCs can do at a fraction of the price, and that's where Kent-based Synchronica connects with them. STEVE LOADER spoke to the dynamic head of a future comms giant

Carsten Brinkschulte

KOSmedia BUSINESS WEEK THE BIG INTERVIEW

VIRTUALLY unnoticed by nearby shoppers in Tunbridge Wells' busy Mount Pleasant Road is a company reaching out to billions of people around the world – but few in the UK.

Called Synchronica, it has developed a software package called Mobile Gateway, offering advanced mobile messaging, email and even social networking on Facebook to operate with the most basic mobile phones, and at an affordable price.

In the developing world and emerging markets, where even major cities rarely have an efficient terrestrial phone network and PC penetration is low, such a system is a massive hit.

Synchronica has also just branched out with an effective BlackBerry email-style phone that sells into its overseas market for less than $100 – at least 75 cent cheaper than a real BlackBerry bundled with a three-year services contract.

But that's still a high price in Synchronica's target markets, so it has less sophisticated $30 and $50 versions coming out over the next few months. Using this potentially huge customer base and a combination of organic growth and acquisition, Synchronica is closing in on its aim to be a global leader in next-generation mobile messaging. This was underlined when, at a time when most UK companies struggle to borrow from tight-fisted banks and wary investors, Synchronica has just raised a further £4.8 million allowing acquisition of a major rival, Colibria, adding technology, 300 million new-end users and 13 further carrier contracts.

NEW MARKETS: Message Phone from Synchronica

It has taken the company's head count to 126, with 25 'customer-facing' staff at the company headquarters in Tunbridge Wells, 45 at the engineering centre in Berlin and the rest in the Philippines, Dubai, Johannesburg, Miami, Latin America and South East Asia.

Mapping out the company's progress is 43-year-old co-founder and chief executive Carsten Brinkschulte, who admits his 'pile them high, sell them cheap' strategy is based on a hard lesson.

He developed a ground-breaking contacts and email manager software product in 2000, but too early and too focused on high-end users – only two phones on the market then could run the system.

With Synchronica, he turned the concept on its head. "We have a product that

'My Business Week …'

By Catch founder Graham Hollinshead

MONDAY – this is the day we give two fish for the price of one. Catch fish and chips opened recently in Ashford and this offer is proving very popular – everyone loves a bargain. I spend the morning making sure we have sufficient supplies.
PM: We don't close until 9.30pm and it's my turn to polish the enormous shark's head inside the door.

TUESDAY – most of the fish we serve is caught and cooked by us and we're happy to grill, pan-fry or batter it. Today, I check what the boats have caught in the last few days so I know what to expect. I also take delivery of the week's first supply of potatoes. We receive them in their natural state, to freshly peel and chip in the shop every day.
PM: There are some good businesses surrounding our shop in Eureka Place, Trinity Road, so I use this time to deliver menus.

WEDNESDAY – we open early to serve breakfast, which includes our lovely baps, pastries, coffees and teas. So, today I enjoy a slap-up breakfast to taste our menu selections – tough life!
PM: I meet with my marketing guru to discuss future plans. Looks like we're giving away free fish and chips if England reach the World Cup final. Customers will be asked for a donation to the Bobby Moore Fund for Cancer Research UK.

THURSDAY – Ashford is our first shop and we chose the town because it has a great future. Our intention is to expand the Catch concept into other communities, employing and training local people to cook and serve our top quality food. I spend time looking for premises in Kent and the South East.

FISHDAY – Yes, we call Friday Fishday, as it's one of our most popular days of the week, when we stay open until 10pm. I spend time explaining to a customer that fish and chips have fewer calories than any other 'take out' food – less than 500 for a standard portion. Besides, fish is good for you as the omega-3 in fish oil promotes brain function. She agrees and orders salad instead of chips to lower the calories even further.

SATURDAY – Because we cook and deliver food for special occasions – from weddings to annual general meetings – this can be our busiest day for such orders. Making sure orders are delivered on time to the right place is my job today and takes up loads of time. Just as well I'm good at juggling.

BUSINESS WEEK

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works on every phone – a smartphone or the bog standard Nokia 1100," he said.

"When is it going to happen in the UK? Maybe a year or so. We have a few businesses that are using our software."

But he added that UK breakthrough needs to come via the mobile operators who would have to see wider customer demand for push email and the other benefits of Mobile Gateway – many of which they currently access via their PC.

"There is a market in this country though," he said. "Most people can't afford a BlackBerry, even for business. There is always that perception 'Yeah, but I can get a BlackBerry for £1'. Yes, if you are on a contract and if you commit for 24 months and pay £50 a month or whatever."

Ominously perhaps for the existing UK infrastructure though, he added: "In time we will come back to our home market, but first you have to be commercially successful and then you can go conquer the world and Europe as well as the UK."

Synchronica is focused right now on the fact that there are four billion mobile phone users in the world and 80 per cent are in countries classified as emerging economies.

Mr Brinkschulte said: "We are not pushing aggressively for the top 20 per cent of the market, which includes the UK. Instead, we are focusing on India, Africa, Latin America, South East Asia and Russia – that's where the gold rush is."

To give an idea of the scale, India gained 19 million new mobile phone users in December – equivalent to a third of the UK population 'going mobile' in a month.

It also ridicules a question I ask about how many of our old UK phones find a new life in the Third World.

Apparently 100 million phones from the developed world are re-sold annually, but 1.2 billion brand new mobiles were supplied to the whole world last year and 85 per cent were entry level – right in Synchronica's Mobile Gateway target zone. By comparison, the UK market is stagnant.

Most people who want a mobile phone now have one and will keep their current model two years on average.

It is clear that such inertia niggles him: "Over the past 10 years I have been disappointed with how long it actually takes for new technologies to come to market and into substantial volumes."

As an example he predicts the next big thing in personal comms, while pointing out that the technology is available now. Labelled 'augmented reality' and probably linked to a head-up display within a pair of glasses, it means that someone could wander through an art gallery and be continually informed via their phone about every painting on view.

Or they could go shopping in the supermarket and get instant product reviews, price comparisons and information on ingredients.

It can't come soon enough for one visionary in particular.

SO HANDY: Advert gets the mobile message across

ENTRY LEVEL: Mobile Gateway's user interface

CARSTEN'S TOP TIPS

- Know your market. You always risk developing a theoretically successful and attractive product that does not have an 'addressable' market: "A scientist has to learn that commercial reality is more important than what's technically possible. Ivory tower technology is great but has to be affordable."
- A company is only as good as its employees and selecting the right people is the most important thing any business leader can do: "Hiring someone is easy, but you also need to be able to take the tough decision and 'exchange' people when it's not working out – that's a lesson I'm still learning myself."

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Giving garage doors extra lift

GARAGE doors aren't usually the stuff of dreams, but a Sittingbourne father and son are giving people a chance to realise their fantasies.

Instead of a standard garage door opening onto an everyday family car, you can now lead the world to believe you've just acquired a Harrier jump jet, F1 car, helicopter or even a pet tiger.

The venture is the brainchild of young entrepreneur David Chick, 23, who explained: "I actually saw my first fantasy garage door – a Formula One car – while on holiday in Germany and it made me do a complete double take.

"It appealed to my sense of humour. I discussed the idea with business contacts and while some thought I'd gone off my head, most agreed it represented a viable, if slightly off-the-wall business opportunity."

The idea has already been a huge hit on the Continent and David's dad, and now business partner, Linsey, loved it too.

He said: "Even if you don't have a garage but still fancy a fun view, fantasy doors can be applied to any wall in the house."

Their www.fantasygaragedoors.com company has already taken orders from people wanting to add the images to indoor walls and, particularly, the walls of children's bedrooms.

WINNING FORMULA: F1 car garage door

The wesite tells visitors: "Welcome to the death of boring garage doors!" and offers a choice of 14 images, including cars, an Italian street and a golf course at £99 a time.

More are promised.

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FORMER England cricket captain and wicketkeeper/batsman Alec Stewart found himself being quizzed by Maidstone clients of the Clydesdale Bank.

The event, via a teleconference at the bank's centre in Turkey Mill, Maidstone, marked a three-year sponsorship of cricket's new domestic Clydesdale Bank 40 one-day competition.

Apart from Alec's views on the new 40-over tournament matches – mostly on Sundays – he was also asked about England's winter tours, including the performances of fellow Clydesdale Bank cricket ambassadors Alastair Cook and Paul Collingwood.

Paul Saunders, managing partner at the Maidstone Financial Solution Centre, said: "It was fantastic for members to hear the views of such an authority on the game as Alec Stewart and to be able to put questions to him."

TOP ORDER: Former cricketer Alec Stewart, right, with Adrian Wenn of Clydesdale Bank

Amethyst offers glamorous rerun of the steam age

MUCH has been made of the futuristic high-speed rail link across Kent launched earlier this year, but another new train service starting this month will turn the clock back, ***writes Steve Loader***.

Called Amethyst Rail, it targets the luxury 'days out' market pioneered by the reborn Orient Express, using 'Pullman' first class coaches and attentive on-board service to deliver a real wow factor – not least because the all-in deal offered is cheaper than a standard first-class return by modern train.

In stark contrast to Kent's new hi-tech services though – and a big plus for nostalgia fans – the Kent launch train on May 29 will be hauled by Tornado, an all-new A1 Pacific steam loco built by enthusiasts' subscriptions and donations, but with serious business intentions for the consumer and corporate markets.

Picture: CRAIG STRETTEN

LUXURY: Tornado will carry passengers along the GWR while Amethyst Rail staff attend their every need

The Amethyst service starts from Ashford and then picks up from Headcorn, Paddock Wood, Tonbridge, Sevenoaks, Orpington, Bromley South and Kensington Olympia before Tornado takes over along the historic Great Western Railway to Bath and Bristol for a lunchtime arrival.

Passengers will be welcomed aboard with a glass of Buck's Fizz followed by meals and time out in Bath or Bristol and then a five-course silver service dinner on the way home. Amethyst Rail was founded by rail and travel industry veterans Jim Hall and Dave Wilsmore.

Mr Hall said: "We want to offer luxury travel to people living outside London. For years Kent's passengers have had to put up with overpriced, overcrowded and slow trains on Cinderella lines. We are bringing the golden age of glamorous travel back to the county.

"Our first train to Bath and Bristol is just the start of many exciting new destinations direct from Kent's local stations without having to change trains in London."

Key features of the Amethyst experience will be uniformed hosts, armchair seats with good views of the countryside, complimentary newspapers and magazines and the option of fine wines, spirits and beers with dinner.

The firm has tailored fares to suit all pockets: the full dining experience is £219 return – not bad against a current first class anytime return fare of £322 from Ashford to Bristol without food – but you can opt for the light snacks package (£159) or the trainspotters' standard class £99.

The last is likely to be well subscribed due to the presence of Tornado; while examples of many locos survived the mass scrapping at the end of the steam era, the 49 Peppercorn class A1s Pacifics were all destroyed by 1966.

However, a group of enthusiasts got together in 1990 and started work on a dream that took nearly 20 years to fulfil, but delivered a 50th A1 and the first steam locomotive to be built in the UK since 1960.

FLY THE FLAG: Olympic hopeful Martin Brockman, centre, meets staff from ASB Law

Olympic hopeful Martin's legal aid

ASPIRING decathlete Martin Brockman has secured a £2,500 Olympics 2012 sponsorship deal from one of from his local legal practices, ASB Law of Maidstone.

Introduced through the Maidstone's Dream initiative, ASB agreed a deal that will support Martin's full-time training efforts and reward his successes during the season.

If Martin's performances go to plan, he hopes to represent England at the Commonwealth Games in New Delhi in October, and use that as a springboard to his Great Britain hopes at London 2012.

"My focus since leaving school has been training towards the Olympics and my performance has steadily improved," said Martin, 22. "I support myself through part-time and casual work that can be fitted around training and ASB's support means I'll be able to do warm weather training in Spain ahead of the Nationals in June. It's a real boost that the firm is behind me."

ASB senior partner Russell Bell said: "Martin's dedication and professionalism are second to none. We're impressed by his commitment and his attitude. We'll be following his progress and cheering him on to his Olympic dream."

"NatWest have helped my T-shirt printing business go from medium to large"

Andrew Hodgson, Managing Director of Advartex

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A future of producing more with less

FOR at least 50 years we have taken the availability of food and water for granted, ***writes Pat Crawford of Hadlow College***.

Food is so abundant in the developed world that it is now estimated that the amount wasted in Europe and the USA could feed the entire world three times over.

And while it is true we have experienced water shortages during exceptionally dry periods, they have generally been localised and short-lived.

But now forecasters and statisticians are predicting serious food and water shortages in the not too distant future, some brought about by climate change, others by a world population expected to explode to 9.2 billion by 2050.

This will make us more and more dependant on our farmers and growers to raise food production.

Charles Tassell, just weeks into his job as county chairman of the National Farmers' Union (NFU), is convinced the industry can be counted on to increase production, but British consumers need to their back farmers' efforts by expressing their preference for homegrown produce. This also calls for clearer food labelling so consumers can make an informed choice to buy British.

HARVEST TIME: But avoiding food and water shortages is the next challenge

But the farmers themselves also need to co-operate and get help on new initiatives to meet fresh challenges. Mr Tassell said: "It will be more important than ever for farmers to communicate and to get together to discuss potential issues and problems.

"Water provision could be a big stumbling block, but already many farmers are setting up water storage initiatives."

He explained that farmers need planning permission for reservoir construction and that water collected will then be subject to extraction licences.

Water wastage in the UK runs parallel to food wastage though and needs to be addressed at national, regional and local levels.

And there is an international point too, said Mr Tassell: "Water shortages are predicted round the world in future and they are likely to be especially bad in parts of the developing world.

"Much of the produce we import from those countries contains 60 per cent or more water.

"In future, it will be hard to justify these unseen exports of water and they are certainly something that should surely be taken into consideration."

Second generation career farmers, Charles and his brother, William, run the 500-acre Church Farm at Ulcombe.

Mainly devoted to arable and fruit production, the brothers have also diversified by converting obsolete farm buildings for office and light industrial use.

Both ex-students of Hadlow College, they are convinced that the industry will need increased numbers of highly trained and skilled personnel.

Our tip for the top as farmers get grip on UK market

WE HAVE just entered a period highly prized by chefs and restaurateurs, retailers and increasingly discerning consumers – the asparagus season, ***writes business editor Steve Loader***.

And Kent farmers are among a far-sighted band who are diversifying and promoting this short-lived yet valuable crop.

The Asparagus Growers' Association (AGA) reckons 2010 could be the best year yet for this fledgling 'agri-business' due, ironically, to an exceptionally hard winter, which will have enhanced the flavour of the current crop.

British asparagus is widely regarded as the finest in the world, but it is also big business expected to be worth £18.2 million this year, which is 15 per cent up year on year.

Much of what is eaten is imported though, despite UK growers boosting production by 84 per cent in just five years.

Kent producer Henry Bryant of Bounds Farm, Hernhill, near Faversham, is a veteran of the business though, starting with eight acres in 1995 and expanding to his current 20, producing 50 tonnes per year.

The season starts in late April and lasts through to June 21, when the prized shoots from the plant – described as a very large root – has to be allowed to grow its ferns in order to regenerate to produce next year's crop.

Diversification

Mr Bryant told Business Week: "If the weather is warm during the season it has to be cut every day. It can be an intense six to eight weeks of harvesting, but it isn't too much trouble in the rest of the year."

He uses a team of about a dozen to harvest his crop, which is a small proportion of his 350-acre business, but a valuable one financially and logistically. "It fits nicely into a period when there's not much else happening," he explained.

He went into production originally as diversification out of fruit growing. "Thirty years ago it was almost unknown outside of a few kitchen gardens. Most of mine goes to a couple of farmers' markets, some goes to London and the rest is bought by restaurants and hotels locally."

Does he sell to supermarkets? "Not if I can help it."

He is irritated by the fact that so much asparagus – often of inferior quality – comes thousands of miles to satisfy supermarkets.

"A customer told me they'd gone into a supermarket in Tunbridge Wells to find Peruvian asparagus," he said. "She was told the British crop hadn't started yet – what rubbish."

British asparagus production is expected to hit 5,350 tonnes this year – a long way from just over 1,000 in 1988. Last year, it was 4,700 tonnes with 2,710 imported to meet increased demand. Most of this comes from Peru, Guatemala, Mexico and Spain.

When the AGA was formed in 1979, it had six members. Today, there are 114 and rising, responsible for 90 per cent of the UK asparagus market.

Chairman Andy Allen said: "The popularity of British asparagus has been fuelled by a growing demand for fresh, seasonal produce and superior flavours rather than relying on hot-housed imports, not to mention increasing concern over carbon emissions.

"Asparagus has also benefited from an increase in the popularity of gourmet meals and dining at home; celebrity chefs' endorsements; and our award-winning marketing activities to educate consumers on ease of preparation, recipes and serving suggestions."

The industry reckons there is still more growth to be had and predicts that within five years 25 per cent of households will regularly buy fresh domestic asparagus during its brief but magnificent season, up from 13.6 per cent today.

NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight on the Hospitality, Travel and Tourism sector

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Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 50 years

1960 **50 YEARS AGO:** FRED Ridgway recorded his best ever first-class bowling figures of 8 for 39 as Kent routed Lancashire by an innings and 30 runs at Dartford.

On a difficult wicket at Hesketh Park, Kent made 238 batting first, the top score being 58 from Bob Wilson.

Ridgway chipped in with a valuable 26 at number 11 and then took eight wickets as Lancashire were skittled for 71 in their first innings.

On an improving surface a more obdurate Lancashire side put up some resistance in the second innings after being forced to follow on, with an unbeaten 61 from Geoff Clayton taking the game into the afternoon session on day three. But Ridgway took four more wickets to finish with match figures of 12 for 101 and Dave Halfyard claimed 6 for 55 in the second innings to wrap up the tail.

1985 **25 YEARS AGO:** GILLINGHAM'S promotion challenge ended in heartbreaking fashion when they were rocked by two injury-time goals away to Bristol Rovers.

In front of a meagre crowd of 2,761 at Rovers' old Eastville Stadium, the Gills fell behind to an early goal from Mark O'Connor (who went on to join the Priestfield club a few seasons later), before Martin Robinson equalised on 19 minutes.

Seven minutes after the restart Peter Shaw gave the Gills the lead but in time added on Paul Bannon equalised, before Steve White struck a sickening winner in the dying seconds.

2000 **10 YEARS AGO:** DEAL Town made history by becoming the first Kent side to win the FA Vase, when they beat Chippenham Town 1-0 in the last final at Wembley before the old stadium was knocked down.

Chippenham arguably had the better of the game in terms of chances, but their profligacy in front of goal coast them against a Deal side who had Jamie Kempster running the show in midfield.

With four minutes remaining striker Steve Marshall eluded two challenges on the right and crossed for Roly Graham, who fired in the winner, in front of a crowd of 20,003, then the second biggest in the competition's history.

Gillingham missed out on automatic promotion when they lost their final game of the season 1-0 to Wrexham at the Racecourse Ground, allowing Burnley to jump ahead of them with a 2-1 win at Scunthorpe.

Kent's glory days

In the first in a new series on great moments in Kent's sporting history, **FRED ATKINS** takes a look at one of the most significant races at the county's biggest sporting venue, Brand's Hatch – and the day a racing driver previously dismissed as an also-ran came of age with his first-ever Grand Prix victory

HE WAS pilloried by Spitting Image as a whining midlander, so devoid of charisma he made Steve Davis look like Liberace.

The late Ayrton Senna called him an "uneducated blockhead," and it was once said the only people who adored him were those that never met him.

It's a testimony to what Nigel Mansell achieved in his Formula One career that he attracted that kind of opprobrium while to this day remaining Britain's most successful ever driver in terms of Grand Prix wins.

Yet when Mansell won the first of his 31 Formula One races, at Brands Hatch on October 6, 1985, there was little to suggest that here was either history, or a mega-star in the making.

The European Grand Prix has always been something of a bonus round in F1, and handing it to Brands Hatch during a Kentish autumn was always likely to be something of a gamble and the early part of the meeting was overshadowed by the death of the British driver Stephen Langton, who was hurled from a car during a support event and run over.

From a racing point of view the biggest story was Alain Prost's need to finish two points clear of Michele Alboreto to win his first world title (though in an interesting footnote, the circuit's current supremo Jonathan Palmer was forced out after suffering head injuries and fractures at the Belgium Grand Prix).

Mansell only merited a mention for his determination to race, despite having broken two ribs and torn a cartilage in practice for the previous race at Spa-Francorchamps and going on to finish second.

He subsequently qualified third at Brands behind Senna and Elio de Angelis, only to make an error on the first Brands corner.

MAIDEN VICTORY: Nigel Mansell celebrates winning his first Grand Prix at Brands Hatch in 1985

He brushed Senna's JPS Lotus and then ran wide on the next hairpin to drop down to fourth.

His luck, however, was finally about to turn.

On lap seven, team-mate Keke Rosberg collided with Nelson Piquet, allowing Mansell to move up to second. When Rosberg emerged from the pits just in front of Senna, Mansell took advantage, sweeping inside the irate Brazilian to take a lead he never remotely looked like surrendering.

He was 21 seconds clear of Senna by the chequered flag and saluted the part played by the Brands crowd.

"If anyone's won the race for me today it's been the people out there, they've just been unbelievable," he said. "It's the best feeling I've ever had."

Yet even in the immediate aftermath there was a hint of the churlishness that later characterised some of his press utterances, when he berated his team for failing to tell him how many laps he had left: "I don't know why they did that… I knew more from the crowd."

The victory launched Mansell's career but it proved to be something of a swansong for Brands. Nine months later the British Grand Prix, which had previously alternated between Brands and Silverstone, was held in Kent for the final time – with Mansell the winner.

Motorbase win despite struggle at Brands

BRANDS Hatch played host to another memorable round of the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) last weekend, which saw the county's Motorbase Performance team scoop another win.

Torrential rain dominated race day last Sunday and made racing difficult around the 2.3-mile Grand Prix circuit. But the Wrotham–based Motorbase team salvaged a troublesome weekend with a win in the final race to maintain their lead in the championship.

The first two races were dominated by Team Aon duo Tom Chilton and Tom Onslow-Cole, who came through the treacherous conditions unscathed to win.

The meeting seemed to be slipping away from the Motorbase team, but their luck turned in the final race as a gamble on tyres gave them their second win of the season.

Drivers Mat Jackson and Steven Kane, both on wet tyres, quickly built an impressive lead but were denied a one-two as Kane was passed by Matt Neal on the final lap. Jackson crossed the finish line first to clinch Motorbase's fourth-ever BTCC win.

Team owner David Bartrum said: "It's brilliant to win and to do it at our home circuit is fantastic."

Motorbase continue to lead the team championship by two points.

The dangerous conditions and mechanical problems plagued Shaun Hollamby's first BTCC event at his home circuit. The Pembury-born privateer, driving his self-built Volkswagen Golf, was caught out by the wet conditions and failed to finish all three races.

FAST START: But Steven Kane (left at front) was passed on the final lap by Matt Neal

Picture: NICK DUNGAN

Cricket at the St Lawrence Ground

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Kent v Durham

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Picture: DAVE HAYWARD

Camier swaps circuit for road in bid to go pro

CONVERTED superbike racer Alex Camier is eyeing a place in the Sarremaa Velotuur in Estonia next month as he continues an impressive start to his cycling career.

The 21-year-old former superbike rider has made rapid progress since he switched to cycling last year and is hoping to embark on his biggest challenge yet with a five-day 532km race.

Camier, brother of World Superbike rider Leon, switched to cycling full-time after finding superbike rides difficult to come by. The rider from Bethersden, near Ashford, who rides for Faversham-based team Toachim House, leads the South East Road Race Championship this season.

Despite only one five-day race under his belt, he hopes to earn a place in the British Science in Sport cycle team for the Estonia road race, alongside friend and Ashford professional cyclist Ian Field.

Camier said: "I've won a few events now so I'm going to stick with cycling and hopefully do it professionally. It will be a real tough event if I get an entry into the race. I have always been into cycling as I used to ride bikes a lot with Leon as it's good training for superbike racing. Things seem to be going well and I'm enjoying my cycling."

The race begins on June 15.

Cav nets title

Naomi sets sights on qualifying in Paris

By DAVID PRITCHARD

NAOMI Cavaday travels to Paris later this month with added belief that she can qualify for the French Open after winning a maiden title on clay last week.

The 21-year-old won both the singles and doubles tournaments at the ITF Circuit event in Brescia, Italy. She came from behind in both sets of the final to beat second seed Andrea Hlavackova from the Czech Republic 6-2, 6-4 and won the doubles with Russia's Anastasia Pivovarova.

It was the Sidcup-born player's first victory overseas since 2007 and came on the back of winning two British Tour titles earlier this spring.

The win in Brescia should move the British number four up to a career-high world ranking around 170 when the list is updated tomorrow.

It is ideal preparation for Cavaday, who is focusing on coming through qualifying at Roland Garros to take part in the main draw of the French Open for the first time.

She said: "I am really looking forward to Roland Garros as I know I have a great chance of qualifying. I beat two girls who will be in qualifying, which has given me more belief for the event. I feel like I'm getting back to my best, and I hope to continue this form throughout the summer.

"Winning on clay is extra special for me as it is a surface I know I can do well on, but it is the toughest physically. Every point is a tough battle and matches pretty much double in length. I've worked hard on my fitness and I'm really pleased that I have been able to show that by winning five tough singles matches and four doubles matches in one week."

After a disappointing first round exit in Florence this week, next up is a tournament in Caserta, near Naples, which starts tomorrow. It will be Cavaday's last outing before heading to Paris, where qualifying begins on May 18.

AMBITION: Naomi Cavaday hopes to play at the French Open

Woolford to prove he's cut above rest

TWO Kent fighters take the next step in their careers next Friday on the undercard of the clash between British flyweight champion Shinny Bayaar and challenger Ashley Sexton.

Ramsgate welterweight Scott Woolford looks to bounce back from his third-round cuts defeat against former British champion Young Mutley in February.

The 28-year-old faces Scott Haywood in a rematch, having stopped the Derby fighter on cuts in six hotly-contested rounds last November.

Haywood, 28, has been clamouring for a rematch since and a win could put either man in line for a British title eliminator.

Woolford said he is well prepared, despite his training being interrupted when he was forced to delay his return from a recent holiday in Australia for 10 days due to the Icelandic volcano eruptions.

REMATCH: Scott Woolford faces Scott Haywood

He said: "I kept training while I was out there and obviously I couldn't train with the same intensity as I would back home, but my trainer has been pushing me hard the last couple of weeks since getting back and I'm only two pounds over the [10st7lb] limit and feeling good."

He said the cut suffered against Mutley should not cause him any problems. "It's healed really well," he said. "I had a good plastic surgeon sort it out after the fight.

"I'm not a cocky fighter but I'm confident in my ability and I hope to prove once and for all who is the best Scott out of the two of us."

Also on the Dagenham bill, Chatham heavyweight Tom Dallas, 25, looks to extend his unbeaten record against Lincoln's experienced Lee Swaby, a former British and Commonwealth cruiserweight title challenger, after original opponent, Dave Ferguson, pulled out.

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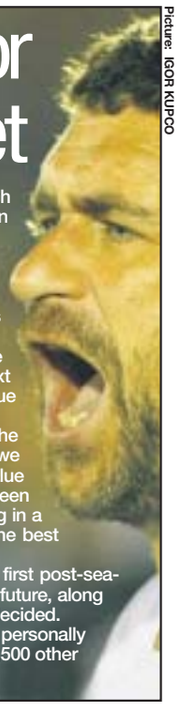
Tough times for relegated Fleet



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

EBBSFLEET United's sponsorship deal with Eurostar will be significantly lower for next season after the club's relegation to Blue Square South.

Some doubt still lingers over whether the Fleet will in fact go down as financial difficulties at other clubs threaten to spark a further non-league reshuffle, but chairman Duncan Holt is preparing himself for the worst.

An extension to the Eurostar deal has yet to be signed and while Holt remains upbeat about next season, he admits the cost of exiting the Blue Square Premier is starting to hit home.

"It hasn't been signed but I know the numbers," he said. "It depends on whether – by some miracle – we are playing in the Blue Square Premier, or in Blue Square South. It's a significant difference [between the two deals] for us because we've been playing in a national division, but it would probably still be the best deal in the whole of the Blue Square South."

Boss Liam Daish (pictured) and Holt held their first post-season discussion last Thursday and the manager's future, along with the playing budget for 2010-11, remains undecided.

Holt said: "We're still working on the budget. I personally want Liam to stay but I can't speak on behalf of 4,500 other people [the MyFootballClub members]."

Invicta take stock after great escape

FOOTBALL seasons by their nature are a rollercoaster ride at the best of times, but supporters at Folkestone Invicta are still pinching themselves after an extraordinary 12 months.

A year ago the Seasiders, labouring under large debts, finished their league campaign with no certainty over their future.

Little was expected of Neil Cugley's small squad but, despite a 10-point penalty for briefly going into administration, last weekend they won promotion to the Ryman Premier League thanks to a 2-1 win against Godalming Town in the play-off final.

Cugley hailed the achievement as the best in his long managerial career.

He said: "It's brilliant, especially with a lot of us being local people. Myself, [assistant manager] Micky Dix and a lot of the players are, so it means a lot. I don't know if it's been done before that a team has lost points and still gone up."

The club's finances have stabilised, but they are committed to paying £800 a month for five years for their Company Voluntary Arrangement.

Picture: IGOR KUPCO

UNITY: Neil Cugley says the fans and players pulled together

Half is being met by standing orders from supporters, which gives club chairman Lynn Woods optimism for the future.

He said: "It all helps and speaks volumes of the supporter base the club has got. It's encouraging and we've shown on and off the field what can be achieved if everyone pulls together."

Picture: KEN MEDWYN

Brickies sign off with cup win

SITTINGBOURNE ended their 57-game season in triumphant fashion on Tuesday night as they came from behind to beat Folkestone Invicta and lift the Kent Senior Cup at Cheriton Road.

Second-half goals from Colin Richmond, Hicham Akhazzan and Tom Bradbrook sealed the 3-1 win as the Brickies lifted the trophy for the first time since 1958.

South African to return home as football World Cup ambassador and miss Kent's T20 campaign

Football's coming home for Ntini

AMBASSADOR: Makhaya Ntini will not be staying at Kent for the Twenty20 period
Picture: ADY KERRY

By GLENN PEARSON

OVERSEAS fast bowler Makhaya Ntini will not be extending his stay at Kent to include the county's Twenty20 campaign as he is set to return to South Africa as an ambassador for the football World Cup.

The 32-year-old, who signed a five-week deal at St Lawrence, started his short Kent career well in the LV= County Championship draw at Lancashire last week, and is hoping to use his stint at the county to work his way back into the international frame.

Any hopes Kent may have had of extending that deal beyond May 31 when his contract finishes, have been extinguished with the news Ntini is to work for the South African Government and Fifa at next month's football World Cup, making him unavailable for the domestic Twenty20 period.

While disappointed at not being able to select him for Kent's campaign to make it to finals day for the third successive year, coach Paul Farbrace is hoping the quick bowler will help propel the county up the Division One table with his displays before the end of his spell.

"He won't be available for the T20 period but we are all excited by his first week and if his next four are as good as that, we are expecting him to be winning games for us," he said. "The confidence he has brought to the squad has been brilliant and he has been outstanding for us.

"He has brought everything we expected he would. The guy brings unbelievable passion and enthusiasm.

"He is still desperate to play international cricket, he only needs 10 wickets to reach 400 Test wickets, which is an unbelievable achievement for a fast bowler. We are hoping the five weeks are beneficial both on and off the pitch for the club."

Ntini will be replaced by Sri Lanka leg-spinner Malinga Bandara for the second-half of the season.

Sport news updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Bandara set for a lone role as Kent's overseas

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

KENT are likely to go into next month's Friends Provident t20 competition with just Malinga Bandara (pictured) as their overseas player, after turning down a host of other 'Twenty20 specialists' offered to them.

Counties are permitted to recruit as many as four, but play two overseas players in this year's Twenty20, which starts in June, although Kent look as though they will field just Sri Lanka leg-spinner Bandara.

The county have been offered players for the competition by agents and some players have put themselves forward, but Kent say they have yet to find the man they want.

Head coach Paul Farbrace said: "We haven't explored the second overseas options too much. We are constantly talking about people but haven't gone any further than a finding-out stage as opposed to doing anything about it.

"We've had quite a few agents pushing their players. All of a sudden there are these Twenty20 specialists and it seems a lot of players are reinventing themselves.

"People come to counties asking to play, saying 'I am not looking to earn massive money because what I want to do is earn myself a place in the IPL'. We haven't followed any of those at this stage."

While no intended target has been discussed as yet, it's clear which type of player the club would be after.

Farbrace said: "In our squad we are short of a quality bowler who can bowl at the end of an innings and you need at least three of them. We have got Simon Cook and Azhar Mahmood, but we don't have a quality third one. If we could find the right overseas for T20 I think we would be keen."

KELLY'S EYE

In her exclusive column for KOS Media, our Olympic hero Dame Kelly Holmes, lifts the lid on fears surrounding funding for the England team in this year's Commonwealth Games, an encounter with 'Smithy' during Sport Relief, and how she celebrated a memorable birthday

'Funding's proving to be a headache'

WHILE security at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi later this year remains a hot topic, what perhaps few people know is we are yet to secure the funding to send the England team out to India.

As president of Commonwealth Games England, I can assure you we get regular updates from our security team and from what we have been told, there seems to be no reason not to send our athletes out to Delhi.

The safety of the team is paramount and if there was a security risk then of course we would pull them out, but that isn't an issue at the moment.

What is a big concern for Commonwealth England at the moment is actually funding, as presently, we haven't got the funds to take the team to Delhi. Sport England fund the team but the money only goes so far and when you are looking at taking a team of more than 500 athletes to India, it obviously works out quite costly.

We were looking at putting on a holding camp as preparation for the team before the Games, but that is under threat at the moment because of a lack of funds.

I think the funding issue is down to quite a few things – one of them being that as a country, and quite rightly so, we are focusing on the 2012 Olympic Games in London and in terms of sport, lots of funding is directed towards that.

While that's great, it's important that the Commonwealths, which let's not forget, is one of the biggest sporting events with more than 8,000 athletes competing from as many as 71 countries, is given the respect it deserves.

We are one of the biggest teams and will be judged on our results and will be criticised if we don't do well, so it's really quite important that our team are supported.

GOLDEN MOMENT: Kelly Holmes shows off her medals at a visit to South Africa

To help spread the word and increase our chances of securing more funding, I spoke last week at an International Olympic Committee conference at the Royal Albert Hall in front of 2,500 people.

I felt quite nervous – it was like I was competing again, but it seemed to go well and we have got some support off the back of it, which is great, but clearly there is still more to be done.

Since my last column, I've had two quite big things happen which I'd like to share with you.

Firstly, on Sports Relief night I was one of those that comedy actor James Corden 'picked on' during his sketch as 'Smithy' from the TV show Gavin and Stacey.

It really was hilarious. He had a 10-minute window to deliver a nine minute sketch, which was shot during the BBC Sports Personality of the Year awards, and he did it start to finish with no interruptions and no stops. Fortunately the people that were mentioned in it, which included me, were called and knew about it but no-one else, including the crowd, knew what to expect. It ended up being a very funny set.

I then jetted off at the end of the live show to South Africa with former Newcastle and England captain Alan Shearer to help raise money for projects in the country, which was a really big thing and a worthwhile experience.

The other big thing that has happened recently is I celebrated my 40th birthday a couple of weeks ago. I've just about come to terms with reaching the big 40, but it was nice to get away and hide!

Seven of my friends had organised a surprise holiday to Spain, but that got cancelled because of the problems caused by the volcanic ash and instead we went to Cornwall for a couple of weeks which was really nice.

Now I'm back and raring to go again and will be putting a lot of effort in to drumming up support for our England team for the Games. If there are any businesses out there that would like to help, contact us at www.weareengland.org – any support will be greatly appreciated!

• Dame Kelly Holmes, the county's double Olympic gold medallist, is one of KOS Media's regular sports columnists.

• As part of Dame Kelly's mentoring and education work she is leading a 'Future Stars with Kelly' Mentoring & Education Day, sponsored by Aviva, for 60 young athletes along with their coaches and parents, at Loughborough College on Saturday, May 15. www.oncampwithkelly.co.uk.

Barham hits sixth spot

BENN Barham helped his bid to regain his European Tour card with a sixth place finish at the Turkish Airlines Challenge last week.

Picture: ADY KERRY

The 34-year-old former European Tour golfer was in contention for the tournament victory throughout the four days of competition. But the Tenterden golfer was unable to find the birdies on the final day and finished three shots off the lead in sixth.

He said: "It went well and I played solid golf for the whole tournament which was pleasing. I have a few goals this season, one being to regain my card and I feel I'm playing nicely and building towards something special."

This week he made a return to the European Tour in the BMW Italian Open.

Hill maintains title lead

TOMMY Hill extended his lead in the British Superbike Championship after recording a second and third-placed finish at Oulton Park on Bank Holiday Monday.

Picture: NICK DUNGAN

The Beckenham-born rider secured pole position in qualifying but he was unable to convert the pole into a race win. He was embroiled in a race-long battle for the lead with Stuart Easton, who pipped him to the finish line by five hundredths of a second.

The 25-year-old struggled to get to grips with wet conditions in race two, but managed to finish third.

The two podiums extended his championship lead to 51 points ahead of the next round at Cadwell Park on May 23.

Pay tribute to volunteers

NOMINATIONS are needed to honour the volunteers who keep the county's football scene running week-in week-out.

The Kent FA Football Workforce Awards look to pay tribute to individuals or clubs for the work they do, which can often go unnoticed behind the scenes.

There are six categories covering a variety of aspects from refereeing, to disability football and safeguarding children.

This year's ceremony will be held in September, but the Kent FA need nominations for suitable winners from the general public.

Log on to www.kentfa.com for nomination forms, which must be filled out by June 1.

Aitken's poised to make impact on Tour

Picture: ADY KERRY

THE Ladies European Tour season begins in earnest with the Turkish Airlines Ladies Open this weekend, with Claire Aitken (pictured) looking to build some early momentum.

After sporadic events in Australasia and Africa in the spring, the season really starts this month when the tournament returns to Europe.

Aitken, 24, is beginning her second year on Tour and is intent on making a bigger impact than in her debut season.

After making the cut in her first event of the season in Morocco almost two months ago, the Gravesend golfer will again be aiming to reach Sunday's final day in Antalya.

One player not in the field which teed off on Friday was Maidstone's Dani Masters. Without a full Tour card the 27-year-old is not guaranteed to play in every tournament this season and is expecting to wait until next month before she can start a run of events.

Despite having to wait for an opportunity, she is keeping it in perspective.

"It's just one of those things," she said. "There are a lot of girls from the US coming over because their Tour is struggling and a lot are asking for invites. It's good for our Tour, so I can't complain."

Log on to www.kentnews.co.uk to find out how Aitken fared in Turkey.

Sevens head for Crabble

THE East Kent Sevens takes place at Crabble this afternoon as host club Dover look to stave off fierce competition and defend the trophy they won 12 months ago.

Dover will hope to emulate Canterbury's development side (pictured), who won the Kent County Spitfire Sevens on home soil last weekend, beating Warlingham 17-12 in the final.

The Surrey side are one of 15 clubs represented this afternoon, with the action commencing at noon and prize money of £200 on offer for the winners.

Teams taking part are: Dover Sharks, Warlingham, RBS, Ashford, University of Kent, Old Olavians, Deal & Betteshanger, Old Colfeians, Whitstable, Ash, Gillingham Anchorians, Snowdown, East Peckham, Gravesend, Folkestone.

STIMSON ALL SET FOR GILLS TALKS

Boss to meet Scally to discuss squad plans

FUTURE PLANS: Gills chairman Paul Scally and manager Mark Stimson will discuss the club's future next week Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON

PAUL Scally will hold talks with manager Mark Stimson next week to discuss how to build on what the Gillingham chairman described as a "disappointing" season.

EXCLUSIVE

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

Heading into yesterday's final game of the season the Gills were favourites to narrowly avoid relegation, a year after winning promotion from League Two.

Scally came under pressure from supporters to remove Stimson when Gillingham were in the relegation zone in February, but the chairman did not waver in his backing and results duly improved.

Speaking before yesterday's game, he indicated Stimson would remain in charge next season whatever the outcome, and the pair are due to meet in the next few days to organise contract offers for the squad.

Doubt

"[Mark's] a good manager, I think there's no doubt about that," Scally said. "He does things his own way, he doesn't always do things the way fans would like it to be done, but he does things the way he's comfortable with.

"What he has done is build the basis of a strong team and I think with one or two additions next season it will be a very settled team.

"Despite what I've heard from some sources, the budget this year was quite high. We've spent a lot of money on players, but we've had to because of the number of injuries we've had to bring in a lot more players on loan. There are a few players out of contract this year and we'll be sitting down and looking at the situation next week I'd imagine."

Scally pointed out Stimson had been deprived of several key players with long-term injuries which have hampered the campaign. The most obvious loss was Simon King, the squad's best defender, who missed the entire season with an ankle injury.

Despite the problems the Priestfield chief has not been content, even if Gillingham remain in League One for next season. The club's woeful away form – the worst in the Football League – has been the main source of dissatisfaction.

He said: "If we had won seven or eight games away from home, which we would normally do, we would've been in the play-offs.

"It's been a disappointing season in so far as we haven't achieved what I believe we could have achieved, but it's one of those things that have conspired against us for whatever reason."

• ***Log on to www.kentnews.co.uk for all the details and reaction from the Gills' trip to Wycombe.***

Stevo should have been England Twenty20 squad pick, says Farby

By **GLENN PEARSON**

BIG-HITTING all-rounder Darren Stevens should have been selected to play in the ICC World Twenty20, according to Kent head coach Paul Farbrace, who says several other countries would have picked him in their squad.

Having been included in the England side for the winter's Hong Kong Sixes tournament which followed a season in which he was named Most Valuable Player in last year's Twenty20 competition, some observers may have concluded that Stevens must be on the selectors' radar for this year's World T20.

Just how close he was will never be known, but the 34-year-old hasn't let that affect his form in the early stages of the season, contributing with both bat and ball and becoming Kent's first centenarian of the summer with a match-saving unbeaten 101 at Lancashire last week.

Farbrace, who was confident Stevens was a "shoe in" for England before the start of the season, admitted his surprise that the all-rounder wasn't in his country's plans considering his impact in the 20-over format.

"I spoke to a couple of the England selectors at the end of last season and this year, but he would have been a definite for me," he said. "There are not many players in county cricket that can strike the ball as cleanly as Stevo does from ball one. He has been consistent in Twenty20 and one-day cricket for Kent and I genuinely would have picked him."

Having watched Stevens register a hundred and a gritty knock of 92 in the championship game against Yorkshire at St Lawrence, Farbrace said his premier all-rounder's displays in all forms of the game would have seen him selected by other countries.

He said: "I think with a couple of other countries, if Stevo had been in their team he would have been selected. I think his game has matured and is showing real signs of being a high quality batsman.

"In the West Indies on some of their wickets he would have been absolutely brilliant.

"What Stevo is able to do because he is such a natural striker of the ball, is that he can put pace on without changing shots and not many players in county cricket can do that.

"I'm not knocking the England selectors but when he got picked for the six-a-side in Hong Kong I thought that was perhaps an indication they were looking at him."

Picture: ADY KERRY

LEFT OUT: Darren Stevens

England star Lydia writes World Twenty20 Cup blog for KoS

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